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E A R L Y L I F E

With Biographies

Of

EDISON PARK ILL.
NORWOOD PARK ILL.
PARK RIDGE ILL.
DES PLAINES ILL.
NILES TOWNSHIP ILL.
LEYDEN TOWNSHIP ILL.

By

WALTER JOSEPH KNOLL
6914 N.Odell ave.
Chicago 31 Ill.

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Gift '59
Walter J. Knoll
Chicago, Ill.

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PREFACE

It has been said"That a history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people". In conformity with this idea I have contacted several old settlers,and secured from their own lips their story of life struggles of their immediate family. In the life of every man,and of every women is a lesson that should not be lost upon who follow after. Yes I have spent a lot of time making researches in musty records,and taking there from statistical matter to accomplish this short record,so that the coming generations will appreciate these efforts, and preserve it as a sacred treasure.

This manuscript has been made as a loving tribute to my father,George W.Knoll,and my dear mother,Caroline Knoll,who came to Edison Park Ill., on Decoration Day May 30.1889 with their family,and built a home which is still standing at 6934 N.Overhill ave. They could not have chose any finer place to live, and did enjoyed same until their death.

To show my deep appreciation of my friends who help to make this record possible,I would like to express my thoughts in these few words;

It is my joy of life to find
at every turning of the road
The strong arm of a comrade
To help me onward with my load;

And since I have no gold to give
and love alone must make amends
My only prayer is while I live
God make me worthy of my friends.

Chicago Ill. 1958

WALTER J. KNOLL
Public Accountant.

PAGEANT OF EVENTS

Exploration and Settlement

Original Propietors of the Soil

In Sept.1669 Robert Cavelier de La Salle explored this territory,and named it Louisiana,in honor of the King of France. Upon his arrival in this section he found the friendly tribe of Indians known as the Miamis tribe. Then came Jacques Marquette in 1670,when he learned,they had formed a confederacy with the Illinoi,and Kickapoos Indians. In 1673 Louis Joliet came, then Tonti came in 1679. During the seventeenth century the Algonquin tribes,consisting of the Pottawatomies,Ottawa's and Chippewas drove most of the Miamis tribe out of here,leaving only a few along the banks of the Wabash River. The last surviving Illinoi Indians gathered on the summit of Starved Rock,and as they were besieged by enemy tribes on every side,they finally attemped to escape by forcing a path thru the ranks of the enemy, and nearly every one was killed,but a few who survied to tell the tale. The State of Illinois was named in honor of these courageous Illinoi Indians. In 1763 the Treaty of Paris was signed,and the Illinoi country passed to Great Britain. Soon afterwards The American Revolution was started by the Colonies againist Great Britain. Great Britain was using all their efforts to persuade the various tribes of Indians in the Northwest to make war upon the Colonies. In order to combat this movement,Patrick Henry, then Governor of the State of Virginia,ordered George Rogers Clark,and his intrepid Virginians in the year 1778,to put an end of this Indian uprising inthe Northwest territory. This mission was very successful,and wrested from Great Britain all this territory. On Dec.12.1778 all this territory consisting of parts of Ohio-Indiana,the southern part of Michigan,southern part of Wisconsin,and all what is now known as Illiois,was organized as the County of Illinois of the State of Virginia,by the legislator. Then Patrick Henry, appointed John Todd as Lieutenant Commandant of this large County. It was on Aug.3.1795 General Anthony Wayne terminated the war that had been raging in the Northwest for a number of years,by a Treaty of Peace at Greenville Ohio. By this Treaty the Indians ceded to the United States a number of tracts of land,and among them was one piece,six miles square,at the mouth of the Chicago River,which later became Chicago Ill. During the year 1800 the County of Illinois was divided into States. As the Indians in this territory were constantly being pushed back from their homes,naturally there were many raids on the early settlers,especially during the War of 1812 with Great Britain who urged the Indians to make war on us,and one of the most important attacks took place at Fort Dearborn,where a massacre took place,and the next day the Fort was burned.

But in 1816 the British were driven out for good from the Great Lakes region,and finally the Fort Dearborn was re-built.
The State of Illinois with its present boundaries was admitted as a State into the Union on December 3.1818. After becoming a State it was divided into counties. Amongthe Counties were Pike County was created in 1821,and included all the territory north of the Illinois and Kankakee Rivers,and east of the Mississippi to the northern boundary of the State. In 1823 part of Pike County was taken and named Fulton County. In 1825 part of Fulton County was taken and named Peoria County,which included what is now called Cook County. Then in 1831 part of Peopia County was taken and they named it Cook County. During the same year on January 15, 1831 Chicago Ill.,was choosen the County seat.
Cook County was named after Daniel P.Cook,who was born in Kentucky,served four terms in Congress representing Northern Illinois where he fought for the interest,and to build up Northern Illinois. He came to Cook County, settled in Kaskaska Ill.,in 1815. He also became a lawyer and a Judge.
In July 1829 the treaty of Prairie du Chien was accomplished,whereby two large Indian Reservations were set aside,where the Township of Leyden is today. This was given according to the terms of the Treaty to Alexander Robinson and Claude La Framboise for their kind deeds rendered toward certain white settlers in Fort Dearborn massacre etc.
In 1833 Chicago Ill.,was Incorporated.
About this time Chief Blackhawk did not think that the indians received a fair deal,and started a war again,but was not so successful. On September 26.1833 he with other chiefs signed the Great Indian Treaty in Chicago which ended the Blackhawk war,and settled all claims with the Indians. During 1836 part of Cook County was taken and Will County was created. In 1839 again part of Cook County was taken and Du Page County and Lake County were created. Thus reducing Cook County to the dimensions of Nine Hundred Forty Eight square miles. In 1850 the Township of Niles was organized. In 1850 Congressional Precinsts were created in Cook County,and among them were the Chicago Precincts and the Monroe Precinct.
The Monroe precinct consisted of the west half of Jefferson T.S.-Leyden T.S. Main T.S. Off of Jefferson T.S. in 1873 Norwood T.S. was organized.

THREE FRIENDLY INDIAN CHIEFS of the WHITES.

Alexander Robinson(Che-che-pin-qua)
Was a Chief of the United Pottawatomies,Chippewas,and Ottawas,was at Fort Dearborn at the time of the first massacre. His father was a Scott trader,married Catherine Chevalier(an indian)

Billy Caldwell(Sauganash)
was a son of a Irish officer in the British army stationed in Detroit Mich. His mother was Pottawatomie Indian. He was also known as a straight tree,account of his fine appearance,of great strength,and power of endurance.

Chamblee(Shawbonee)
A son of a Ottawa chief,while he himself was probably a runner like Billy Caldwell(Sauganish) for Tecumseh. He was sent by Tecumseh to notify the Pottawatomies in regards to the fall of Fort Mackinac,and bring them into the league with him,which was againist the Whites in Fort Dearborn. While Chamblee was a faithful friend of Billy Caldwell,both did all they could to alleviate the horrors of war,and in the time of peace did all in their power to promote the feeling of friendship between the Indians and the Whites.

The three above mentioned chiefs were instrumental in saving the lives of the John Kinzie family.

SOME OF THE EARLY SETTLERS OF CHICAGO AND THE NORTHWEST.

In order to comprehend the record of settlement of this territory we will mention the early settlement of Chicago,as that was the focal point which most of them journeyed thru going westward. The earliest settler of Chicago was Jean Baptiste Point De Saible, a handsome negro,native of Santo Domingo,well educated,settled at Eschikagou(Chicago) River,according to the records of July 4.1779, recorded by Colonel Arent Schwyler De Peyster,the British Commandant at Michilimackinac. De Saible built a rude cabin on the banks of the Eschikagou(Chicago)River. In the summer of 1803 Captain John Whistler U.S.A.,then stationed in Detroit Mich.,was ordered to move his company of sixty nine men,to occupy the post,and build a fort at the mouth of the Chicagou River. Four cabins were built, three of which were occupied by French traders,and their Indian wives. This fort was named in honor of Henry Dearborn then Secretary of State on Dec.31.1803. In 1803 John Kinzie the first white settler at Fort Dearborn,bought the cabin of JeanBaptiste Point De Saible,and conducted from it his trading with the Indians. John Kinzie(justly called the Father of Chicago) was born in Quebec, Canada,about the year 1763. He removed to Detroit Mich.,and became a Indian trader with the Shawnees and Ottawa's. During these years met Margaret (his wife)who was then a young girl of American Parentage,who had been for many years a captive among the Indians in Ohio, and who doubtless,was ransomed by Mr Kinzie,and then taken to Detroit. During the War of 1812 Fort Dearborn massacre occured,and the Fort was burned. Jean Baptiste Beaubien who may be considered the second permanent white settler of Chicago. He first visited the place in 1804,but did not purchase property until the year 1812,sometime after the massacre. During the year 1820,John K Clark came to Chicago,and went back to Virginia in 1821,and returned to Chicago in 1823,bringing his half brother Archibald Clybourne with him. On August 23.1824 John K Clark built a log shanty in the timber belt along the North branch of the Chicago River. This farm was in Jefferson Township. He built his cabin of logs secured from the surronding timber. These logs were one foot in diameter,which were cut by John K.Clark himself, He owned a beautiful span of Indian ponies. Mr & Mrs Clark lived on this farm in Jefferson T.S. until 1836,when it was sold,and they purchased two hundred acres in Northfield in 1864. When this farm was sold,they bought a small farm in Deerfield Ill.,and it was on this farm Mrs Clark passed away in 1877,while her husband had died in 1865 at the ripe old age of eighty one years. John K Clark was populary known as "Indian Clark"account of his intercourse with and friendship for the Indians,and also it may be because he had previous to his marriage to Miss Permalia Scott,a Indian wife by whom he had one child. By the Indians themselves he was known as No-Ni-MO-A or Prairie Wolf. On August 23.1824 Jonas Clybourne with his wife and two sons,Archibald and Henry Clybourne settled on the banks of the North branch of the Chicago River. Jonas Clybourne and his son Archibald were the early butchers in Fort Dearborn. On Jan.15.1831 the Act creating Cook County was passed by the General Assembly of Illinois,and at the close of the year Chicago was legally organized as a Town,and became the County seat for Cook County.

Here are a few of the various ways they spelled the words "Chicago River" according to the different Indian tongues:

Che-cau-gou	Chikagou
Chucagoa	Chicaqu
Chucagua	Chicaque
Chicaugu-one that means"To be great"	Checaqua
Checaugou	Chicagoux
Cheacoumeian	Chi-cag-ong
Chikagu	Chekagoue

Shegahg-found in the Chippewa tongue,means skunk or she-gau-ga-winzhe,a skunk weed or wild onion. Chicago River was also called Garlick Creek or wild onion river,as there was plenty of wild onions growing along its banks.

Here are a few estimates taken from Colbert's table of the population in Chicago:

Year	estimated population
1829	30
1831	60
1832	600
1833	350
1834	1800
1835	3265

The inflation period of 1835-7 brought Chicago well to the seat of Destiny. It became a speculative center and distributing point for imigrants from the east. As in the early thirties the people of the Western Reserve,of Vermont,and east,were urged to try their luck in Chicago and its surronding community.

Plank Roads

Very early in the history of plank roads,Chicago became quite a center, The first road of this kind in the State was started in May 1848,and was called theSouthwestern Plank Road. In 1850 it was completed from Chicago to Brush Hill,sixteen Miles. Then the Northwestern Plank Road was constructed in 1849-50 from Chicago to Wheeling Ill.,a branch running west to Des Plaines,and the main line extending to Dutchman's Point,a total of eighteen miles. This was formerly a Indian trail. The Western Plank Road was organized in the ~~xxxxxx~~ winter of 1850-1,connecting with the Des Plaines River branch at Robinson's and extending west to the west line of Du Page County,thru Bloomingdale,17 miles. In 1854 Chicago had completed the Northwestern Plank Road to the town of Main,17 miles. Epic of the Northwestern Plank Road,"Dinner Pail Avenue",the Rue de Mecklenburg(as it is or has been variously known),remains to the wake of ecstasy the living Lyre. The Northwestern Plank Road began at the Old Galena depot on the north side,then following two thirds of the way up Elston ave,then to Milwaukee ave.,leaving out the lower portion of Milwaukee ave,as map today. In order to pay for these roads and the maintenanee of same,Toll gates were established at various points. On Milwaukee ave,one at Fullerton-Belmont,Jefferson gates,near the Village of Jefferson,Niles Gate at Milwaukee ave.,and Elston,main gate at Northfield,Wheeling gate at Des Plaines River,Norwood gate and Graceland ave gates. Elston ave gates were at Belmont ave and at Montrose ave.

LIST OF THE EARLY SETTLERS OF THIS PART OF THE COUNTRY, SHOWING THE YEAR THEY SETTLED HERE.

Year	Names	Location
1831	Joseph Curtis, an Englishman, built a log cabin	on section 17 in Niles T.S.
1832	Captain Daniel Wright	North boundary line Section 22 in Town of Main.
1832/3	John Dewes, an Englishman-settled on ½ mile north of Mr	Curtis above.
1832/3	John Schadiger & Julius Perren, together built a log cabin	on the North branch of the Chicago River in Niles T.S.
1833	William Clark built a log house near the river in Niles T.S.	
1833	Mark Noble Sr. Built a log cabin in Jefferson T.S.	
1834	Phineas Sherman in Jefferson T.S.	
1834	Christian F Ebinger and John Plank built cabins on the Ridge at	Dutchman's Point, Niles T.S.
1834	John Odell in section 30 Niles T.S.	
1834	Robert Robinson in section Niles T.S.	
1834	John Miller in section 19-20 Niles T.S.	
1834	Andrew Brown in Niles T.S.	
1835	Socrates Rand in S.E.¼ section 8 Des Plaines Ill.	
1835	Marcellus B Gustavus & Isreal Smith in sect.7. Jefferson T.S.	
1836	Samuel Johnson & Captain Mancel Talcott in Park Ridge Ill.	
1836	Henry Smith-Ephraim Payne-Ezra Alger in Jefferson T.S.	
1836	James Wheldon in S.E.¼ Sect 19 in Niles T.S.	
1836	Thomas Brown in S.E.sect.19 Niles T.S.	
1836	George Heslington west ½ sect.7 in Niles T.S.	
1836	John Boyd in Monroe Precinct(now Edison Park)	
1837	Benjamin Emerson in N.E.¼ sect14 in Niles T.S.	
1837	Mr Bartlette in N.W.Sect 35 in Niles T.S.	
1837	Lyman Butterfield in S.W.Sect.10 in Niles T.S.	
1837	John Pennoyer in ~~xxxx~~.S.E.½ sect 1 Jefferson T.S.	
1837	Thomas P Robb in Park Ridge Ill.	
1838	Evan Jones in Park Ridge Ill.	
1838	Stephen Pennoyer & Son in S.E.Sect.2 in Jefferson T.S.	
1838	James Pennoyer & Son in Jefferson T.S.	
1838	Russell Morton in S.E.½ sect.6 in Jefferson T.S.	
1838	John & Jacob Kline in S.E.¼ sect.11 in Jefferson T.S.	
1838	Samuel Hummel-George Coleman-Hermann Rowley in Jefferson T.S.	
1838	Mr Hill & Mr Bumstedt in Jefferson T.S.	
1839	Peter Ludby in S.E.18 in Jefferson T.S.	
1839	Joseph Shaw in ~~xxxxx~~ S.W.½ Sect 18 Jefferson T.S.	
1839	Samuel E.Ferris & Mr O'Brien in Niles T.S.	
1839	Thomas Jowarski in S.½ sect 27 in Niles T.S.	
1839	Snell Family in the N.W.part of Niles T.S.	
1840	John Richard in Section 14 in Niles T.S.	
1840	Jacob Comstock in N ½ sect.15 in Niles T.S.	
1840	Stephen Gage in N½ sect.7 in Niles T.S.	
1840	Benjamin Hall-John Marshall, built a tavern at Dutchman's Point Niles Ill.	
1840	Benjamin Lupton in Niles T.S.	
1840	John Robinson in Jefferson T.S.	
1840	Rees Eaton N.W.sect 17 Jefferson T.S.	
1840	Warner & Stevens in Park Ridge Ill.	

year	names	location
1842	Charles R Ball in Jefferson T.S.	
1842	John Rodgers-J.H.Hoffman-Peter Schwarz-Charles Ruescher Nicholas & Peter Haupt-John Fine-Mr Eckoff all in Jefferson T.S.	
1843	Jacob Kescher in sect 14 in Niles T.S.	
1843	John Zobus-Sylvester in Niles T.S.	
1845	George Prosesel-Wolfgang Harror in Niles T.S.	
1845	John & Thomas Shaw in Jefferson T.S.	
1845	Mancel Talcott Jr in Park Ridge Ill.	
1846	Friedrick Blume in Canfield,now Edison Park	
1846/50	Thomas H Canfield in Canfield now Edison Park Ill.	
1850	John Harris in Jefferson T.S.	
1853	Eli Crittendon in Canfield now Edison Park Ill.	
1853	George W Penny in Park Ridge Ill.	
1853	John Haseman in Park Ridge Ill.	
1854	Samuel E Cummings in Des Plaines Ill.	
1854	John C Morey in Park Ridge Ill.	
1857	Samuel Bundock in Park Ridge Ill.	
1858	Hiram Canfield in Ridgelawn now Edison park Ill.	
1860	A.J.Whitcomb in Park Ridge Ill.	
1868	William Ely in Canfield now Edison Park Ill.	
1869	Hugh Ratighan in Park Ridge Ill.	
1870	Annie Sammons in Canfield now Edison Park	
1871	on Oct 7th Emil Huebach in Canfield now Edison Park	
1872	John Harrison in Park Ridge Ill.	
1872	Mrs Annie Blann in Park Ridge Ill.	
1873	Mr & Mrs(Molly) Servos on Canfield Road	
1875	A.C.Badeau in Ridgelawn now Edison Park	
1879	James G Phelps in Park Ridge Ill.	
1880	John Butler in Park Ridge Ill.	
1885	August Wollenzien in Park Ridge Ill.	
1885	Theodore Schwiesow in Ridgelawn now Edison Park Ill.	
1888	Carlton Dickinson in Ridgelawn now Edison Park	
1889	George W Knoll in Roseneath,now Edison Park Ill.	
1890	William Zuetell in Edison Park Ill.	
1890	Gurido F.A.Greiner in Edsion Park Ill	
1890	Charles A Wheldon in Edison Park (came from Niles Ill.	
1890	John Stade in Edison Park Ill.	
1890	Mr Butler & Mc Cabe in Edison Park Ill.	
1890	The building what is now known as the Ridgewood was erected with the hopeful thought that they may attract and accommodate visitors to the Expostion of 1893,but this hotel turned out to be an unsuccessful adventure.	

HISTORY OF LEYDEN TOWNSHIP

This township was bounded on the East by Norwood and Jefferson, and on the South by Proviso, on the North by Main Township, and the West by Addison Township in Du Page County. Most of this township was prairie, the exception being a strip of timber averaging about a mile in with extending north and south along both sides of the Des Plaines River. It consisted of some very fine white oaks, and were about two feet in diameter.
Leyden T.S. was actually two large Indian reservations which was set aside according to the terms of a treaty of Prairie du Chien made in July 1829. These reservations were given to Alexander Robinson, and Claude Laframboise, two half breeds. Alexander Robinson reservation comprised two sections of land, lying on both sides of the Des Plaines River, and the balance of the township was given to Claude Laframboise. It was four years after the treaty by which these reservations were given to Robinson and Laframboise that either actually settled on same. In 1833 David Everett seems to be the first white who came with his family from St Clair County Ill., and he purchased from Laframboise a triangular portion of land, therefore he was the first white settler in this township. In 1834 Mr Brooks (father of F.T.Brooks) also Mr Sherman came and settled on section #3. Mr Higgins on section #4-the two Rowley's -Ezra Ellis-and two Spencer's-Mr Draper-M.L.Dunlap. Later Henry Hachmeister-and Henry Kirchhoff.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

OF
ALEXANDER ROBINSON

Alexander Robinson (Che-Che-pin-qua) who was a half breed, and chief of the United Pottawatomies, Chippewas and Ottawa's, was born in at Mackinac in 1762. His father was a Scotch trader, who had been an Officer in the British Army, and his mother an Ottawa Indian women. Alexander Robinson married in Mackinac, and moved to St Joseph Mich., where he became a trader. With other friendly Pottawatomies did all in his power to shield the Amerians from fury of hostile Indians at the time of the Fort Dearborn massacre. He arrive too late on the scene to do anything about preventing the massacre of which he witness. But on his return to St Joseph Mich., he had received, and sheltered the family of John Kinzie, who received from himself, and wife "all possible kindness" and hospitality for several months". Not confining their good deeds to the family of Mr Kinzie as generous host and hostess. Finding that Captian and Mrs Heald who were brought to St Joseph Mich., by Jean Baptiste Chandonnais, clerk of Mr Kinzie, were in danger of being recaptured and taken to Kankakee, he

carried them safely in a bark canoe to Mackinac,a distance of 300 miles,where they surrendered to the British Commandant. About 1814 Alexander Robinson came to Fort Dearborn,when Captain Bradley arrive,and rebuild Fort Dearborn in 1816. He served in 1823 and 1826 as Indian Interpreter under Dr Wolcott,at a salary of $365.. during the later year. On June 8.1825 he was licensed to keep tavern in Chicago. On Sept.28.1826 he was married by John Kinzie, Justice of Peace to Catherine Chevalier,daughter of Francois and Mary Ann Chevalier. Francois Chevalier was then Chief of a United band of Pottawatomies,Ottawa's,and Chippewas,with his village at the Calumet River. At his death Alexander Robinson became Chief of the band. At the treaty of Prairie du Chien,July 1829 he was granted two sections of land on the Des Plaines River. By the treaty of Camp Tippencoe Oct.20.1832,a life annuity of $200.00,and by the Chicago Treaty of Sept.1833,and additional annuity of $300.00. His Exerations with these of Billy Caldwell(also a half breed) prevented the tribe from joining the Sauks in the Winnebago War of 1827,and Blackhawk in 1832. During the later part of his residence in Chicago he lived at Wolf Point,where he had a store or trading house. After the Indians were removed beyond the Mississippi River,he settled with his family on his reservation on the Des Plaines River until his death, which occured April 22.1872 at the ripe old age of 110 years. His wife died August 7.1860. They were both,with two sons and daughter in law,buried on the banks of the Des Plaines River,near their old home.

There has been placed on their graves
a large stone marker,inscribed as follows:

ALEXANDER ROBINSON
CHEE_CHEE-PIN QUAY
Chief of Pottawatomies-Chippewas and Ottawa Indians
Who died 4/22/1872
Catherine(Chevalier) his wife
who died 8/7/1860
and other members of their family
are buried on this spot
Part of the reservation granted him by the
Treaty of Praitie du Chien
7/29/1829
In gratitude for his aid to the family
of John Kinzie and to Captain and Mrs Heald
at the time of the Fort Dearborn Massacre.

NORWOOD TOWNSHIP

This township consisted of nine square miless,which included sections 6-7-and 18,and ½ of section 5-8-17,which were taken from Jefferson Township. Then sections 1-12 and 13,and ½ sections of 2-11 and 14 taken from Leyden T.S.,and about 125 acres was taken from Niles T.S., and 40 acres off of Maine T.S. In 1833 Mark Noble Sr.built the first log cabin in this township. Then in 1834 Phineas Sherman moved to Norwood Park from his claim on the Des Plaines River,near the Higgins Road,on account of the prevalence of fever and ague in that section. Then in 1835 Marcellus B Gustavus and Isreal Smith settled on section 7 and were followed by their father Henry Smith in 1836. The later was the first person to be buried in the Union Ridge Cemetery,the land of which was bought in 1838. Then came Ephraim Payne-Erza Alger and Mr Cliff. In 1837 John Pennoyer settled on S.E.¼ section 1-Stephen Pennoyer his son settled on S.E.½ section 2 in 1838,and James Pennoyer another son came here to settled. Later D.C.Dunlap-Thomas H Seymour, James B Foote-Charles R and Jesse Ball-John Stockwell-Benjamin S. Chever and others came to Norwood T.S. The first settlement made in Norwood Park Village was by George Dunlap in 1869. At this time there were a few ordinary farm houses on the site. At the time of plating of the Village by Lemuel P Swift of the firm of Forbes and Swift,there were seven houses. The first house built by George Dunlap. It was a two story frame ,and stood at the corner of Norwood Park and Circle ave. The second house built was that of John R Stockwell,and he became one of the first depot agents for the railroad in Canfield. The next house to be built was that of Thomas H Seymour. Mr Seymour own a large orchard of cherry trees,located near the Union Ridge Cemetery,and no doubt many a boy and girl remembers picking cherries for him on shares, including the author of this sketch. The name first selected for the Village was Norwood,after the novel Norwood,by Harriet Ward Beecher, but at this time there was another Post Office of that name,so the word Park was added,and the full name became Norwood Park. The Post Office was established in 1870,and Mr Thomas H.Seymour was the first postmaster. The first store was started by E.W.Morse. The Norwood Park hotel was built in 1872 by the Norwood Park Land and Building Association. It was erected on a brick basement and cost $10000.00,as they thought this community was to be a summer resort of the near Northwest,but they sold it in 1874 to J.F.Eberhart,who at first made money,but it turned out to be a unsuccessful venture. It was finally taken over by the Norwegian Old Peoples Home. The railroad station was erected in 1869,previous to that time any person desiring to take the train had to walk to Canfield which was the next station. For the first two months after the trains began to stop at Norwood Park,George Dunlap was the only passenger to get on or off the train. Then came Thomas H Seymour. Only one train a day at that time,and it was called the "Woodstock Accommodation". The Village of Norwood Park was organized in 1874.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

JACOB WINGERT born in Germany Oct.8.1805,and his wife Anna Maria also born in Germany on May 4.1801,came to America in 1839 with their sons Henry and John,who were also born in Germany,and they landed in New York,and stay there four years,then removed to Norwood T.S. in 1843 on a farm consisting of 97 acres which cost $700.00 in all. They were blessed with two other sons who were born on this farm,namely Jacob and Peter Wingert. This farm was located in the vicinity of Clarence and Harlem aves in Norwood T.S. One day the baby son Henry Wingert,then about four years of age,walked over to the railroad tracks,and sat upon the rails, while in the distance the on coming train was approaching near the spot where the child was sitting. The engineer saw the baby,stop the train,and politely took the child off the rails and sat him down outside of the rightaway and continued on its way. John Wingert the second oldest son of Jacob Wingert married Dorothea Blume, daughter of Frederick and Dora Blume. This last couple bought the farm located at the northwest corner of Canfield Road and Talcott ave. John and Dorothea Wingert were blessed with two daughters and two sons as follows; Louise-Eddie-William and Amelia. William Wingert and his two sisters still live at 5939 W Circle ave., in Norwood Park Ill.

JOHN M FARNUM and his wife,were also early settlers in Norwood,and he was the first custodian of the Union Ridge Cemetery.

JOHN B.FOOT,a farmer in Norwood was born in Chicago in 1840. He was the son of John and Elizabeth Foot. His father followed the blacksmith trade until his death, while his mother was Postmistress of the Monroe Precinct Post Office for many years during those early days,when the mail was carried by stage. Our subject farm was located west of the Pennoyer School house,later he sold this farm and removed to the vicinity of Harlem and Clarence aves in Norwood, where he was in raising thoroughbred fowls of light Brama,Partridge Cochin ,Buff Cochin and Plymouth Rock breeds. In 1861 he enlisted in the Company B McClellan Dragoons,and participated in the battles of Hanover Court House,and in the seven days battle at White Oak Swamp before Richmond. He was injured in the last named action,and was subsequently discharged for disability. The writer remembers how Mr John B Foot always took an active part in Decoration Day services held at the Union Ridge Cemetery,and thru his speeches that he made he inspired us to appreciate our liberties for what he and so many others fought to preserve. He was one of Norwood Park's worthiest citizens.

BIOGRAPHY OF DR. JOHN O.HUGHES

Dr Hughes of Norwood Park and Dr G H. FRICKE of Park Ridge Ill., were among the first medical doctors who served this particular territory,and had a practice for miles around,including parts of Chicago. Both were very well liked for their skillful help in the time of sickness to the people of the community. In those days medical doctors pulled teeth as well,as there were no dentist then. They traveled mostly by horse and carriage which they owned. Dr John O Hughes owned a beautiful team of horses suitable for driving,which everybody admired. He also own a beautiful surrey to which he would harness these horses too when ne made his calls. Dr Hughes was born in New Jersey,in 1837,son of Owen and Catherine Hughes. He was educated by private tuition,and was engaged in teaching for about five years. During that time he devoted his leisure hours to the study of medicine. In 1862 he enlisted in in Company D 103rd Volunteers,and participated in several engagements. He was mustered out of service after being in for three and one half years. He resumed his medical studies from Rush Medical College,and graduated in the class of 1866-67. He married Miss Mary Hartough in 1868 and had four children-Frank O-Kate H.- and Henry E Hughes which are the three living. Dr Hughes came to Norwood Park in 1857.

NILES TOWNSHIP

Niles T.S. is bounded on the East by Evanston, on the North by Northfield, and New Trier, and the south by Jefferson and Norwood Townships. A large portion of this land was covered by native timber which rapidly disappeared for the demands of fuel, timber and lumber. The earliest settler in this township was Joseph Curtus, and Englishman, who erected a rude log hut near the river on section #17 in the year 1831. He remained in the Township until 1846 and in 1850 he returned to England. Then came John Dewes in 1832 who settled about a half a mile north of Mr Curtus, and in the same year John Schadinger and Julius Perren, who together built a rude log hut on the banks of the Chicago River, at Dutchman's Point. In 1833 William Clark settled on N.E.¼ section 30, Thomas Jefferson Sr located near Mr Curtus. In the Spring of 1834 Christian F Ebinger, and his wife Barbara and John Plank built a log cabin on the Ridge in section 31. John Ebinger a brother of Christian F Ebinger built a cabin in the fall of 1834 near his brothers cabin. In 1836 James Wheldon and his wife Sarah, both natives of England settled in S.E.Section 19. Benjamin Lupton was the first blacksmith in Dutchman's Point(Village of Niles) who came in 1840. A Steam saw mill was erected by John Gray and Robert Hartt. The mill sawed a large quantity of planks for the plank roads in the vicinity. Mr Hartt is said to have been the first popcorn peddler in Chicago. The first school was taught by a scotchman named Ballantine in 1838/9. The second teacher was Miss Phillips, who was paid by subscription at the rate of $2.00 per scholar per term. The school stood on a lot donated by Mr John Odell, another early settler who came in 1834, and located on section 30. The Brock school was built in 1857. There were 65 scholars in attendance, about half were Germans. The Church of the Evangelical Association originally stood in Main T.S., until 1867. It belong to the Des Plaines Circuit. The Church society was started in 1850, by Christian F Ebinger, and a few other Germans, among them were Henry Bende-Frederick and John Ebinger-Frederick Blume-Frederick Selger-Jacob and John Wingert-Jacob Brecher, and Frederick Mueller and Jacob Garble.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

CHRISTIAN F.EBINGER'S father and mother were John and Katherine Ebinger,both natives of Germany. His father was born near the City of Stuttgart,Wurtemberg,Germany,and educated in his native land. Reared as a florist,and expert gardener. For a number of years he had charge of the gardens of the King William of Wurtemberg,Germany. In 1831 they came to America,with their three sons and daughter,and settled in Ann Arbor Mich., In May 1834 he-preemptied 80 acres of land,and came via the Indian Trail leading to Milwaukee,which was subsequently known as the Plank Road. He built a one story log cabin (24 ft by 14 ft) and began in the true pioneer style,locating on what was then known as the Ridge in Niles Township. His children were Frederick Ebinger, John Ebinger who married Elizabeth Plank,Elizabeth Ebinger who married John Plank and Rev.Christian F Ebinger(our subject). The later had just attained his majority,when he came to America with his parents. On Feb.12.1834 he settled in Ann Arbor Mich. He married Miss Barbara Ruehle,who was born Aug.11.1812 in Indebach,near Stuttgart,Wurtemberg,Germany. Her parents were Joseph and Barbara(Schwegler)Ruehle. Her mother died when Mrs Ebinger was eight years old. After her mothers death, she came to America in 1832 with her father and step-mother. They settled in Ann Arbor Mich.,where she met Christian F Ebinger. Her father died only six weeks after his arrival in Ann Arbor Mich. She lived with her step-mother until her marriage to Christian F. Ebinger. They set out for Chicago. All their belongings were placed in a light wagon in which the old people rode,while the young couple made their honeymoon trip on foot beside the wagon until they reached the location what is now Lincoln Park in Chicago. At first they thought they would stay there,but then they decided to move further westward,so they followed the Indian Trail(Northwestern Plant Road) until they reached Dutchman's Point on the Ridge,where a rattle snake bit their horse's leg,and the horse got sick and died. So that was their destiny,and they decided to build a cabin. On the Ridge(also called Union Ridge),commencing at the south,was Frederick's Cabin,then John's,and then Christian F Ebinger,and finally John Plank, who married Elizabeth Ebinger. Christian Frederick Ebinger was reared in the Lutheran Church,but in 1840 became identified with the German Evangelical Association,and was the first minister to be ordained in Illinois,and acted in that capacity,also as a farmer,until his death in 1879. In 1850 Christian F Ebinger was appointed Assessor and overseer of the poor in the Township. When the Ebinger family settled in Niles Township in 1834,they never kept tavern,but travelers were always sure to be entertained by them,and a nights lodgings was gladly given,as no pioneer turned away from his door a propective settler. Those who had established homes were exceedingly anious to have others locate near them,and hence in many instances kept Public House. Among the other early settlers were John Plank and James Wheldon. Mr C.F.Ebinger was very well acquainted with Chief Blackhawk,and often entertained him. Rev C.F.Ebinger donated a piece of property which is located in Edison Park facing Pratt ave.,for school purposes. A school was erected in 1927 on this property,and named the Ebinger school.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF JAMES WHELDON

JAMES WHELDON and Sarah (Bims)Wheldon his wife,both were natives of England and came to America in 1832. Settled in Niles Township on section 19 where their children were born. Sarah passed away Jan. 6.1862 and James Wheldon died Aug.25.1868. Their children were Elizabeth Wheldon who became the wife of Joseph Bickerdike of Jefferson Park, Thomas Wheldon married Mary Ann(Paylor)Kay, Sarah Wheldon was the wife of John Winston,James A Wheldon (decease) Charles A Wheldon married Martha Ebinger,Thomas J Wheldon married Laura Ebinger,George W Wheldon,and the youngest son was Joseph Abel Wheldon who married Myra Ebinger. Charles A Wheldon,Thomas J Wheldon and Joseph Abel Wheldon moved to Edison Park. Charles A Wheldon owned the first grocery store in Edison Park.

TOWNSHIP OF MAIN

Monroe Precinct was created in 1850,and this consisted of the West half of Jefferson T.S.-Leyden T.S. and portion of Main township. Main Township was organized under law of 1849. First meeting was held in April 1850 at which Socrates Rand served as moderator,and Curtus Clark as clerk. Main Township consisted of Canfield(Now Edison Park),Chamblee(now Park Ridge Ill),and Rand (now Des Plaines Ill. The first preacher was Rev M.Coulson. In 1838 Harriett Rand taught school in this township,which was held in a room which had previously been used as a cheese factory.A school of 15 scholars. A few years after a school was built near the residente of Mr Rand. Dr Asa Clark-Orlando Talcott,Robert Meacham and Orvis Skinner were early school teachers. In 1841 the township was divided into regular school districts. By 1859 the total number of children were 654 under 21 years of age. The first Post Office in this township was opened in 1837 on the west side of the Des Plaines River,on what is now Touhy ave. First Postmaster was Captain Marcell Talcott,who came from New York in 1836. This was the first postoffice in Cook County outside of Chicago,and was called Chamblee. No doubt the name Chamblee(now Park Ridge) was named after the son of the Ottawa chief (Chamblee or Shawbonee) who was very friendly with the whites. Before these people had their mail addressed to Chicago Ill.,and when neighbors went to Chicago to get their mail, they would all take turns and bring back the mail for the community.

DES PLAINES ILL.

The Village of Des Plaines was originally known as Rand,named in honor of Socrates Rand,and as such it was platted in the S.W.$\frac{1}{4}$ section of 16.~~in~~ In 1869 the name was changed to Des Plaines by a special act of the State Legislature. The first school here was in a private residence,but later small structures were erected. In 1874 the first brick school was built. William Mummer was one of the first in this building. One of the main highways leading thru Park Ridge and Des Plaines was named after Socrates Rand or known as Rand Road.

PARK RIDGE ILL.

This Village is located on the Wisconsin Branch of the C&NW Ry., being thirteen miles from Chicago. It has the highest natural elevation in Cook County, being thirty four feet above the Des Plaines River, and eighty feet above Lake Michigan. Like Des Plaines and Edison Park, Park Ridge was part of the Monroe Precinct, and the name of the Post Office was Chamblee in 1850. The first settler was Captain Daniel Wright who fought at the Battle of Plattsburg Vermont. He located near the northern boundary line of section 22 in 1832, but did not stay long after he had built a log cabin, and was nicely located, he met with the sad experience of a prairie fire, which burned all his hay which he had stored for the Winter for food for his horse and cow. He then removed to a new claim, located about one and a half miles south of Halfday Ill., and was the first settler in Lake County. In the fall of 1833 the Indians titles according to the treaty was completely void on lands East of the Mississippi River. Many evidences are still remaining of that Indian Village. In 1833 Mr Brooks, Mr Sherman, and his sons, Mr Edick, and Mr Besse came into the Township, and located on section 27, which is just south of Park Ridge Village. Then in 1834 Eben Conant took up a claim on the S.E.¼ Section 34, and finally settled on Section #5. In 1836 Mr Silas Meacham came, also in the same year. Mr Curtus Clark, a brother in law of Dr Meacham, who was Justice of Peace, also a funeral director service, and organized the first church in Park Ridge, known as the Congregational Church. In the same year Joseph Mitchell of Bath, Maine located on the north edge of the town. It was after his home State of Mainethat the Township of Maine was named. Also in 1836 Samuel Johnson settled on section 36. The Congregational Church was organized on Feb.4.1848, and in June 1848 the first church was built about Talcott and Dee Roads, near the present Ehrhardt homestead. It was a small structure, and while it never was finished, it was used for years by the Congregationalist in the forenoon, and then Methodist's in the afternoon on the Sabath. Finally this building was sold to Colonel Thomas P.Robb for $200.00 in 1857, and moved on his land on Prospect ave., opposite what is now known as the Country Club, or Robb's Park. In 1873 Mr Hodges donated a lot in the southend of the Park, and a new church was commenced. It is of a beautiful little Gothic Style, built of Brickton bricks, at the cost of $7000.00. The membership was about twenty. It was called the Congregational Church of Monroe Precinct, then the Congregational Church of Brickton, and then the Congregational Church of Park Ridge, and finally the South Church of the Federated Churches. The Episcopal trustee's held a meeting on Oct.7.1856. They agreed to build a church to be located at Brickton. A lot was presented by George W Penny, also plans for the building. It is estimated at a cost of $6000.00. In April 1857 Rev Samuel Bundock preached, and reported that he obtained $4000.00 in good subscription.

In May 1857 contracts were made with Chittenden & Gordon for the carpentry for $1750.00,and with Weeton & Victor for the mason work for $950.00,while the actual cost of the building amounted to $5967.40. On Dec.7.1871 the name of this church was changed to Park Ridge M.E.Church.
Captain Mancel Talcott Sr.,settled on the N.E.Section 14,and remained there until his death in 1857,and was buried in the Union Ridge Cemetery in Norwood Park. He had purchased the log cabin from Socrates Rand,who built it on the east side of the Des Plaines River,and South of Touhy ave. It was in this log cabin that the first postoffice of Chamblee(now Park Ridge) was established,and Mr Mancell Talcott was the first Postmaster. In later years this property was sold to Fred Miller, and whose property was near the Old familiar "Miller's bridge" which spaned the Des Plaines River at that point.
In 1840 two more pioneers came to Park Ridge,by the names of Warner & Stevens,and they liked the surronding territory decided to stay. They erected a small house on the Ridge,where the present site of the Masonic Temple now stands. This house later was occupied by the Haskins family who came from the State of Vermont in 1843. They had a daughter who was Miss Ellen Haskins,who later married A.J.Whitcomb in 1856,who was a builder. This house burned down ,and was replaced by a brick structure,made of Brickton brick,by George W Penny,and was the first brick house in the Village. Mr Penny sold same to Captain W.P.Black,and that house also was destroyed by fire,and finnally the present Masonic Temple was built. Mr A.J.Whitcomb built several houses in Brickton, including the one he lived in until his death. This house now serves as the Tally-Ho Tea Room,after it had been remodeled.
In 1845 Mancel Talcott Jr.,purchased from the U.S.Government a tract of land consisting of 160 acres,and built a small story and half building,with a wing on same,which is still standing on Park ave,and was the dignified home of Jennie(Mrs F) Wannewetsch. The interior is the original frame building built by Mancell Talcott Jr.,but the additions were built later. Mrs Wannewetsch was born in Park Ridge,and lived there all her life. The barn that belong to this piece of property originally owned by Mancel Talcott Jr.,stood across the highway where the Pickwick Theatre now stands. This barn was later removed to Mr Root's place where the present site of the Catholic Church now stands.
Mancel Talcott Jr.,donated 40 acres of land to the Illinois Industrial School in Evanston,if they would come to Park Ridge, and they accepted,and renamed it the Park Ridge School for Girls.
George W Penny came to Park Ridge in 1845 in search for clay suitable for to make bricks. There were only two houses in the Village at that time. In his search for clay he met a early settler by the name of Mr Kline,who had emigrated from Strasburg with his friend George Steiner,and their families in 1844.

These settlers made their way by boat to New York, up the Hudson River, and thru the Great Lakes to the South branch of the Chicago River. Here Mr Steiner remained for a time, hunting and fishing for a living, but Mr Kline moved across the prairies to the Des Plaines River, where he built a home on 40 acres of land, that he purchased on the edge of the woods, which was south of Touhy ave, and east of the land now occupied by the Town of Main Cemetery. After erecting the house, Mr Kline found ~~kick~~ his dirt floor in same was not very satisfactory. Having discovered a stratum of clay beneath the black soil of the prairie land, he made his own bricks tamping the wet clay with his feet, and with these bricks he floored his dwelling. It was this strip of land adjoining Mr Kline's which extended across Touhy ave., and north to Elm st., was purchased by George W Penny from which he obtained clay to make his Salmon colored bricks. Naturally this made two large pools when the clay was removed, and these were known as the Pools, which provided excellant ice skating, swimming, wading, and fishing for the young people. So in the year 1853 Mr Penny and Robert Meacham went into business manufacturing brick, mainly for the Chicago Markets. When the expert brick maker by the name John Hasseman came over from Germany in 1854 Mr Penny engaged him as his foreman of his brick manufacturing plant, which employed 150 at that time. This Mr John Hasseman as we know him later years, he was the custodian of the Central school just north of the depot. He would stand on the first floor with his police star on, and how he watch us, and how we looked up to and obeyed him. There being no railroad station in Park Ridge at that time in 1854, trains did not stop there, and the men or any person getting on or off the trains had to go to Canfield(now Edison Park) and walk to and from there. Even the mail had to be carried to Canfield to be placed on the trains. This was not very satisfactory with the men at the brick manufacturing plant, so George W Penny offered the railroad company to build a depot and maintain same for ten years providing they would stop at Park Ridge, which the railroad company accepted and the first station was built in 1856, and Uncle Samuel Cummings was its first depot agent. In 1855 the Town of Main Cemetery was started and the Association was incorporated in 1858. The Post Office was established in 1856. Previous to this date people had to go to Niles for their mail. Robert W Meacham was its first Postmaster. A.B.Sherwin, succeeded him in 1873, followed by Chas E Stebbings in 1880, then Rudolph Brunst, Charles Kobow, Mr & Mrs Whitlock, W S Chittenden who served from 1896 to 1913 (17 years) and then the incumbent Miss Margaret Mc Clements. The first school house was a one room school, located near Dee Road east of Talcott Road, in the yard what was Mr Erhardt's homestead. Miss Meacham was the first teacher there. The next school house was located on Mr Paine's farm on Touhy ave., and later this was removed to the site of the Town Hall, and then moved to the site of th old brick school house at Grant Place.

When the new brick building was built at Grant Place in 1870,the former structure was moved to 325 Center st.,and was remodeled by the famous artists Mr & Mrs Krehbiel,who used same as their studio. The new Brick school which was built in 1870 at Grant place in Brickton,just north of the Methodist Church at a cost of $6592.00, consisting of two rooms,and addition was added in 1881 at a cost of $5000.00. They had a small stove in each room with a box for fuel aside same. In 1885 Mr Schroeder was principal,and Miss Harriet Beamont was a teacher in the upper grades,and later became principal. Mrs Elsie Millard taught in the primary rooms for 20 years. Mrs Elsie Millard lived in Buffalo Grove,and as there were no means of transportation she lived in the Old hotel where the Gillick Building now stands. Mrs Ella Ford another well loved teacher,who also taught in the primary rooms for years,took care of Mrs Millard in her old age for 37 years. At this time and before the erection of the Des Plaines High school, any boy or girl that wanted to go to high school,from Des Plaines, Park Ridge,or Edison Park,had to go to the Old Jefferson High School at Mayfair. It was in 1860 school District #2 held its meeting in the Brickton school,and determined upon ten month school per year. John C Clark was elected Director,R.W.Gunnison and August Meacham were the first school teachers,followed by George A Follansbee,Anna R Ely(who later became Mrs Sammons ,a mother of Mildred Sammons). They paid Miss Ely at the rate of $1.12½ per day,then Mrs Ross of Niles in 1864,Z.D.Root in 1881. There were about 150 pupils at this time,two teachers and one principal.

Near the close of the Rebellion Penny and Meacham Lumber Yard was started. Citizens of the community wanted to name the place Pennyville in honor of George W Penny,but this soon changed to Brickton in 1858 account of the famous red brick being manufactured there. In 1866 the brick business was sold to Meacham & Lockwood & Co. The price of brick at that time was from $13.00 to $25.00 per thousand,while the Philadelphia brick in the Chicago markets brought from $50.00 to $75.00 per thousand. The quantity that Penny & Meacham Co.manufactured was about 5,000,000 per year. The first brick house in Park Ridge were made of these bricks, and built by George W Penny on the site of a frame house erected by Warner & Stevens. In 1871 George W Carpenter came here,and in the same year Samuel R.Cummings,and his wife built the second house south of the tracks,later his son (Uncle Samuel E Cummings and his family)Occupied same. After the Great Chicago fire in 1871,a potter came here for the Meacham Lockwood & Co.,and a quantity of flower pots were made. However they soon became discouraged and the industry laid idle. In 1880 a man started the brick business again,but failed. Then for a year or two John Hassman started to carry it on in a moderate way,as the clay was nearly exhausted.

In the year 1873 Charles Kobow was building an addition to his store, and was asked by a busy body of the Town, what he intended to use it for, and in a joke replied that he was going to use it for a saloon, which he knew the people of Park Ridge wound not approve of. So this busy body got excited, and got busy with some of the citizens to organize the town, so they could stop the use of this addition to be used as a saloon, which never was intended to be use so. This is how the town of Park Ridge was organized on July 4.1873. The first Trustee's of the Village were George B Carpenter-Augustus Dickinson-Joseph T.Jones-Loring Tennant-Charles Kobow, and W.S.Chittenden. Sub-divisions started to open up. The Village was in need of water, so the artesian well was made at the cost of $5000.00, and its depth was 1505 feet. William Phillipson and his wife came to Park Ridge in 1893, and purchased a brick house that stood where the present Post Office building now stands. He also built a building which contained a electric plant, which furnished electricity for Park Ridge Edison Park-Norwood Park-Edgebrook, and Jefferson. The lights at that time were turned off at mid-night, and person staying out after that time had to walk home in the dark. The second floor known as Electric Hall was uded for large social activities, and the vibrating dynamos below added to the enjoyment, so it is said. The plant and building was sold to Mr.M.Schiessle later, and he sold it to the North Shore Electric Co., which merged into the Public Service of Northern Ill. This building was sold to the Perkins Express & Moving Service in 1904, and later used by the Fetters Express. In the Fall of 1893 a cornerstone was laid for a new school to be located just north of depot. They bought all the land in that block with the exception of about five acres, located in the Northeast corner, which belong to a blacksmith by the name of Miller, who would not sell, but after his death, the daughter that was living there with her father, sold the property to the Town for $6000.00, and then Park Ridge Board of Education agreed to help the Edison Park people to build there school which was in 1907. It was in this year Mr E.C.Mapledoram came from Monticello N.Y., and was later City attorney for Park Ridge. Mr Charles E Stebbins built a very fine new brick store on Prospect ave., in 1897, and operated a general merchandise business in same until 1900, when he sold it to the well known Stagg Bros.(Robert & Fred Stagg). In 1908 the first bank building was erected on the spot where the Edward Hines Lumber Co was, which was at the corner of Meacham and Touhy aves. In the Spring of 1910 the Village of Park Ridge was incorporated, and Dr A J Buchheit had the honor of being its first Mayor, followed by William H Malone-in 1911,-B.W.DURBAN in 1913 and its Mr.Albert W Verity in 1915. As this community and the adjacent Des Plaines River Valley was a Picturesque spot, covered with Oaks-Elm-Blackwalnut-hickory and various other trees, caught the fancy of the Midwest School of Painters, and a artist colony was formed around the "Little Red House" of James Patterson, also a painter. Among these in the fore ranks of American Artists who lived and worked in Park Ridge, were Walter Clute and Adam Amory Albright, and others.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

CAPTAIN DANIEL WRIGHT first settler in Park Ridge,was born June 6.1778 in Rutland Vermont. He married Miss Tood June 6.1803, and they had seven children. He was born during the Revolutionary War. His father fought for our country in the Revoluntionary War,and died at the age of 97 years. His mother was Miss Freelove Foot,who was related to Commodore Foot. He was a commissioned officer(a captain) in the Vermont Militia,and fought under General Pike in the Battle of Plattsburg,on Lake Champlain in 1812. He settled in Ohio for awhile,then came to Chicago in 1832.Came via Dutchman's Point,and settled near the North boundary line of Section 22 in the town of Main. He did not stay very long here and moved into the Indian Village 1½ miles South of Halfday in Vernon Township in May 1834. He was the first white settler in Lake County. His wife Mrs Wright died in 1834,and she was the first white person to died in Lake County. The he married Miss Rachel Millard on Jan.9.1845,and she died on Oct.29.1888. In this Indian Village where he had moved in May,1834,the Pottawattamie Chief Metama with his band of Indians. In June 1834 these Indians helped to build the first house North of Dutchman's Point,and this was the first house built in Lake County. Size of the cabin was 20 by 20 ft. This was located on the Northwest ¼ of Section 26. He came there with his wife and children,two oxen and one cow. While Captain Wright and his family got along with the Indians very well they always had to be on guard,as Indians could change their minds very easily. One summer day an Old Indian laid under a shade tree near the home of Captain Wright. This Indian was sick,an Captain Wright saw a bully drunken Indian strike this sick Indian with a whiskey jug,and Captain Yelled to the bully to stop,which the Indian refused, so Captain Wright grab a stout fishing poll,and struck the bully Indian,and gave him a good beating. So Captain Wright and his family thought maybe they were in for trouble with the rest of the Indians. The following day they saw a band of Indians approaching,and felt sure trouble was coming,but instead these Indians gave praise and thank him for being so brave and for beating up the bully. In the Fall of 1834 he lost his store of hay for the winter,caused by a prairie fire. In Sept.1834 he lost his son on the 7th of the month,and three days latter he lost mother,and wife,and one year latter his son. Caroline his daughter was married to William Wigham,by one of his neighbors,Mr Hiram Kennecott the first Justice of Peace in Lake County,and this marriage was the first in Lake County. Captain Daniel Wright died 12/30/1873,and is buried in the Halfday cemetery. A stone memorial has been erected on his old farm on the river side of the great highway to Chicago Ill.

JOHN HASSEMAN, brick and tile manufacturer, was born in Germany in 1827, was the son of Henry and Laura Hasseman. He came to America in 1848 and located in Chicago, engaged in brick making. After five years there he was asked to superintend the business of Penny & Meacham & Co., in brick making in Park Ridge Ill. Where he had charge of 125 men. He acted as their superintendent for twenty-three consectutive years. In 1881 he bought the business for himself, and carried it on for a few years until the supply of clay to make red bricks was exhausted. He married in 1853 to Miss Ella Targer; They have had eleven children, six living-Marley, William, Sophia, Charles, and Albert. Mr Hasseman was a member of the Lutheran Church in Niles Ill., and was one of its organizers. We all remember this fine gentlemen as being the custodian of the Park Ridge center school. He always was kind, but strict with all the children attending the school. We as children would look up to his star that he wore as an officer of the law. He was one of Park Ridge worthiest citizens.

SAMUEL EVERETT CUMMINGS (known as Uncle Sam to most of us) was born in the year 1839 in Attleboro Mass., He married Atabella Bundock, the daughter of Rev. Samuel Bundock who started the first M.E. Church in Park Ridge, and preached the first sermon in same in 1857. Mr Cummings first came to Des Plaines in 1854, and was the first depot agent there. Later he came to Park Ridge and worked in the brick yard for awhile. He became the first depot agent in Park Ridge when their depot was built in 1856, and held that position until about 1892 when he was transfered to the Mayfair station, and again transfered to Edison Park station. About 1898, where he was not only a depot agent but postmaster as well. Uncle Sam was the first Village clerk in Park Ridge and held that position for 19 consectutive years; Acted as Justice of Peace for awhile, and in his later years operated an express business of his own. Yes we all remember his horse, white beauty "Dan". Dan was formerly Sam is now 28 years old and here is his genealogy; The Stagg Bros originally owhed Sam who bought him from John Lawson, and Lawson bought him ~~fxxx~~ at an auction for $267.00. Samuel E. Cummings and his wife lived in his father's house which was built in 1871, and the second house built south of the tracks in Park Ridge. Uncle Sam Cummings passed away May 14.1919, and his lovely wife in 1918, both buried in the Town of Main Cemetery. His family consists of two daughters, Carrie Belle and Mary Estelle, his one son carries on the family name Samuel Edward Cummings.

DR.GEORGE H.FRICKE,a Physician and Surgeon,born in Hanover Germany in 1848,son of Henry and Frederickie Fricke,came to America with his parents in 1853,and lived in Chicago until 1870,when he located on a farm in Main Township,about a mile from Park Ridge. Educated in the Chicago schools,and attended Rush Medical College from 1866 to 1869. In 1871 removed to the Village of Park Ridge,and started to practice medicine,and in 1881 adding a drug store to his practice. The drug store was part of his home. He married in 1872 to Miss Mary Becker; They had five children-Emma-Amanda-Fredie-also infant son unnamed. His interest in public improvements was instrumental in securing free gravel roads in the Village and vicinity. He was President of the school board at one time. As his practice was far and wide and into the farm communities as well. Dr Fricke use to drive a one horse buggy when he traveled. He was well liked by everybody, for the fine work he performed.

FRED I.GILLICK was born on Oct.25.1876 in Park Ridge Ill.,and started to work in the land department of the C&NW Ry.,and studied law. Graduated from the Kent College of Law,and was admitted to bar in 1900. He bought the business of Chas.O.Lowman,and operated his real estate business in a small galvanized iron building very near the spot of the present Gillick Building is situated. On the S.E.corner of Main st and Prospect ave.,where the present Gillick building is now. There use to be a hotel building on this spot which was first operated by the Snoads,and later the title of this property passed to the Swedish Old Peoples Society and finally Mr Gillick bought,and had torned down and replaced by a beautiful building as it is to-day. Mr Gillick married the lovely Miss Marion T Trimm,who was a school teacher who lived in Park Ridge, but taught in Edison Park,where she was loved by all the scholars. On Sept.11.1940 Fred I Gillick passed away and was buried in the Town of Main Cemetery. His character above reproach and reputation untarnished,was well like by all those who dealt with him.

STAGG BROS (Robert & Fred Stagg) two fine energetic young men bought Mr Chas E Stebbins store in 1902, and carried on a very nice business, and was liked by everybody who dealt with them. They formerly worked as clerks for Mr Stebbins before buying the business from him in 1902. Their father Robert Stagg born in Scotland in 1846, came over to America in 1872, settled in Toronto, Canada at first, where their second child was born. The father's wife was Eliza Parrish born in London England. There lovely family consisted of Lydia, who born in England-Louisa born in Canada-Robert-James-Fred and Charlotte. (The last two were twins) and Bessie Stagg born in Park Ridge Ill. The father of our subject died in 1926 and the mother passed away in 1908, both buried in the Town of Main cemetery. At one time Robert and Fred Stagg erected a toboggan slide on the south side of the station, charging from 10 cents to fifteen cents each, and in the winter season they did a nice business.

Some miscellaneous Items.

Charles Duwell started his police career in 1892 and retired on Sept.1.1928 on a pension.
Silas Meacham was the first doctor in Park Ridge, arrived there in 1836.
Mrs Azubah Elizabeth Perkins who attained the age of 94 years who lived in Park Ridge, at 511 Park ave. She was a Civil war nurse and had the privilege of singing before President Lincoln.

EDISON PARK - CHICAGO ILL.

If you were to trace the pathway of your ancestors coming from European Country,and would land in some eastern port,and as they gradually moved westward,as the different reserves were opened up by the United States Government,they all had pretty much the same plan of traveling,especially the very earliest settlers. They would have traveled via water as much as possible,coming via the different rivers and the Great Lakes to avoid coming into constant contact with the various Indian tribes.
Sometimes these Indians were friendly,especially if the settlers would furnish them with food cooked by the white people,as their squaws were not the best chefs,and their ways of cooking were not as sanitary as they could havebeen. The writer of this article remembers his Great Aunt,who experienced the various Indians coming to her door for food,and the only way she could keep them away was to give them a sandwich with cheese on same, as they did not seemed to like cheese she said. Then if the settlers would give the Indians powder and guns,the Indians in turn would give them a lot of animal skins,or a quantity of land they needed,not saying how good the title was. The Indians felt that they were being cheated eventually,and being pushed back further and further,and besides being agitated by either the French or English to fight the American Colonies which kept a settler in fear of his life. It was not until Sept,26.1833 that Chief Blackhawk,and other chiefs signed the Great Indian Treaty in Chicago,which ended the Blackhawk War, and settled all claims of the Indians,that peace actually prevailed,and settlers felt more safe,and this was the begining of the rush westward for better farms or homesteads.
Please bear in mind all this land in this particular community was just known Cook County,with Chicago as its county seat. There were not even Townships in 1833.
So when we recall our early settler Christian F.Ebinger coming out the Old Indian Trail,and later called Northwestern Plank Road,and landing on the Ridge in the Spring of 1834,what was later called Dutchman's Point in Niles Township,this community was just called Cook County.
Our next important early settler was John Boyd who settled in 1836 in what was later called Canfield,then Edison Park later. Mr Canfield purchased on June 3.1842 a tract of land consisting of 160 acres from the United States Government at the cost of $21.00 per acre. He built his home about where the Ridgewood building now stands,and this building later was used as the first railroad station here. The barn of this owner was located in back of his house on the Northwest highway.

Our next well known settler was Friedrick Blume who came here in 1846 while this community was still called Cook County, and the nearest Post Office was Chicago.
Mr Freidrick Blume purchased his farm at the cost of $5.00 per acre, and was located where what is now known as the Northwest highway, west of Harlem ave., to about Oketo ave., and extended south into Norwood Township, and the railroad when it was built in 1854 ran thru his farm.
On Jan.3.1853 Mr John Boyd deeded his 160 acres to Eli Chittenden with the exception of 3.74 acres which was for a depot property of the Illinois & Wisconsin R.R.Co. Then on Sept.19.1854 Eli Chittenden deeded his property that he purchased from Mr Boyd plus 60 acres to C.C.Mitchell who in turn deeded all this property to the Trustee's of the Illinois & Wisconsin Land Co. The trustees being Eli Chittenden-John Felton-and Rueben E. Demon, and this land was sub-divided and recorded on July 10.1858 as the Town of Canfield, as shown in Book #143, page 81 in the Cook County records in Chicago Ill. Mr Thomas H Canfield came from Vermont on Feb.4.1854, and was a share holder in the Illinois & Wisconsin Land Co., and no doubt that the Town of Canfield was named after him.
It was in the year 1850 that Congressional Precincts were created, this community was in the Monroe Precinct, which included the West one half of Jefferson T.S. Leyden T.S.-Portion of Main T.S., and Canfield was in the Main T.S. portion.
On Feb.12.1851 the corporation known as the Illinois & Wisconsin R.R.Co., was granted a charter by the Legistlator of Illinois, with the authority to build a line from the north line of Mc Henry Co. to Woodstock Ill., in the same county, and thence to a point on the Chicago & Galena R.R. in Cook County, and within 50 years to build into Chicago. Under this authority there was built in 1854, a railroad from Chicago to Cary Ill., about 39 miles. On March 31.1855 the Illinois & Wisconsin R.R.Co., and the Rock River Valley Union Co., were consolidated, and a new corporation was formed thereof, which took the name of Chicago St.Paul and Fond du lac R.R.Co. On June 6.1859, a new company was organized under the name of Chicago & North Western R.R.Co. From the records as far as can be traced, the following timetable was in effect, on the Illinois & Wisconsin R.R.Co. There was only one train each way a day, traveling on a single track. The notice on the time table read as follows: On and after Tuesday Oct.1.1854 trains will leave the passenger station, corner of Water and Kinzie sts., North Branch, Chicago River as follows:

Going West		Returning	
Leave Chicago.....	9.00 A.M.	Lv Deer Grove Ill.....	4.00 P.M.
Lv Plank Road station	9.35 A.M.	Lv Bradley.....	4.20 P.M.
Now Jefferson Park		Lv Des Plaines.....	4.40 P.M.
Lv Canfield.....	9.50 A.M.	Lv Canfield.....	4.45 PM.
now Edison Park		Lv Plank Road.....	5.05 P.M.
Lv Des Plaines.....	10.05 A.M.	Ar Chicago.....	5.40 P.M
Lv Bradley.....	10.30 A.M.		
Ar Deer Grove.....	11.00 A.M.		

Kindly take note from the timetable,that there were no stops at Norwood Park or Park Ridge,as any person who wish to travel by train from these points,had to walk to Canfield to board the train. The mail also had to be carried to Canfield. The old farm house of John Boyd was used as the railroad station in Canfield before the actual station was erected. There was only a long platform in Canfield where the trains would stop,and this would be covered with milk cans,which the farmers would bring from their farms in the immediate community,filled with milk to be shipped to the Chicago Market.

Mr W.A.Russell who came to Chicago in 1853 was one of the first passenger conductors on the Wisconsin division of the C&NW Ry., His run was from Chicago to Woodstock. He lived in Arlington Heights Ill.

Mr John R.Stockwell,who lived in Norwood Park,was one of the first depot agents in Canfield,and he served from 1861 to 1867,and that was before our depot was built. The depot in Canfield was built about 1889,and when Mr Zuetell became one of our first depot agents in same,but also Postmaster as well,as this was used as a postoffice. with the influence of Mr Zuetell in securing permission from the railroad,Sunday Church services were conducted here by the M.E.Church organization. Mrs Minnie (Dickinson) Ball was one of the first Sunday School teachers. The writer of this sketch well remembers going to Sunday school here and it was very interesting to me as a child to see the trains go by. Uncle Samuel E Cummings was agent about 1898.

Land did not sell very well now ,due to the hard times and the Panic of 1857 and most of the land laid idle. What did sell,sold for about $40.00 to $50.00 per acre. A certain Mr Hiram Canfield purchased some lots on July 9.1858. William Ely (Grandfather of Mildred Sammons) purchased a small farm on April 4.1868,which was located on what is now known as Canfield Road. Then on Oct.3.1870 Miss Annie Sammons daughter of Mr William Ely,or mother of Mildred Sammons was deeded some land on Canfield Road.

Then came Mr Emil Huebach out from Chicago after the Great Chicago Fire,and on April 18.1872 he purchased a small farm on the North east corner of what is now known as Ibsen and Overhill aves.,from Mr G,Tanner. He had built some barns on this property,and part of them actually stood on what is now known as Ibsen st,and there was a large deep ditch behind these barns which extended from Overhill ave.,the full length of what is now known as Ibsen st.,thru the Ebinger farm into the North Branch of the Chicago River,and this ditch or creek as you might call it,was the first drainage system in Edison Park. Later sewer pipes were laid in this creek and the space filled in. In one of these barns Mr Emil Huebach conducted a small grocery store ,and he also conducted a hay and feed business in another barn.

It was not until March 20.1875 as recorded in Book #9 page 68 of the County records, that Mr A.C.Badeau purchased 60 acres in Canfield at the cost of $600.00 per acre. Mr Badeau's land was that portion of Canfield which laid north of the railroad tracks. He re-named his portion "Ridgelawn", account of it lying on a dividing ridge between the North Branch of the Chicago River and the Des Plaines River. The balance of the Village of Canfield south of the tracks was still called Canfield, and often referred too as Canfield on the hill by early settlers.
In 1885 August Wollenzien and his family came and located on a small farm opposite Janes Estate in the Northwest part of this community. This farm was owned by Amos J.Snell who also operated the toll gates on the main roads leading to Chicago. In the same year Theodore Schwiesow purchased 15 acres North of Mr Emil Huebach's small farm. Mr Schwiesow was the first truck gardener around here to grow cauliflower, for he brought the seeds over from Germany with him. In 1888 Carlton Dickinson settled opposite Theodore Schwiesow farm. On Decoration Day May 30.1889 George W. Knoll and his family moved here and settled also opposite the Schwiesow farm. Times were difficult at this time, and employment was scarce, new settlers were slow in coming, and the community was not growing as fast as it should, so a real estate syndicate took things in hand, and the first thing they did was to change the name from Ridgelawn to Roseneath, which was on Dec.17.1889. Roseneath implying that this land was imbedded with roses, and thought it might attract more settlers. It was about this time that our railroad station was erected. In as much as Brickton (now Park Ridge) did not have any station and the people had to walk to Canfield to board the trains, they tried to induce the railroad to build a station half way between Canfield and Brickton, but the railroad was persuaded to build it at the present site by the real estate syndicate, and thinking that Roseneath would be the coming Village, the depot was erected. William Zuetell came out here in 1890 who became depot agent in this station, and also Postmaster in the same station. Mr Mc Cabe and Butler also came here and they were in the real estate building business, and started to build several houses and among them was the building now known as the Ridgewood, which was built with the intentions of attracting people for the coming World's Exposition which was to be held in Chicago in 1893, but particular, the venture proved to be unsuccessful.
But things were picking up and people began to come out. It was on May 17.1890 this community was re-named from Roseneath to Edison Park in homor of Thomas A Edison. Mr Zuetell being very active in Civic work, both in railroading, express agent, Post master, Justice of Peace, and in church services, and loved this community so well, that when his youngest son was born who happen to be the first boy born in this community after it was named Edison Park, that he named this son Edison.

Among the settlers that came in 1890 were Gurido F.A.Greiner-John Stade- Charles A Wheldon. It was about this time that the residence on the S.E.corner of what is now known as North west Highway and Oshkosh ave.,was built,and later used as a school house in about 1897. In the year 1891 Mr George B Campbell and his family as well as George Helmkamp and his family located here. George Helmkamp became our first Town Marshall. The M.E.Church was erected in 1892. From about 1894 to about 1896 the south room of this church was used to house the first three grades of Public school,and continued to use same until about 1897,when the reseidence later known as the Arden was used to house the first four grades. In the year 1892 the following came to lived here were A.E.Albright (the famous artist)-William A.Miller,who became the first Village President-Mr Tenny who had the first oil route in Edison Park,Mr Mc Ginus who started a wood,coal and ice business,and Henry C Willis came here. In 1893 Charles Miller who built the house east of the present bank building,and is still standing. O.E.Brooks our well known contractor,John Sandles settled here. In the year 1894 the United Evangelical Church was erected on the S.E.corner of what is now Pratt and Oxford aves. The writer when a boy well remembers when going to Sunday school here. First I would attend Sunday school in the M.E.Church,which services were from 10.00 A.M. to 11.00 A.M. Then several of us children that wanted to attend Sunday school in the United Evangelical Church which were held between 11.00 A.M. and 12.00 A.M.would have to run over to the last mentioned church in order to attend or learn our lessons in the German language. In 1895 John F Wilson and his family came. Then on May 26.1896 came the most destructive tornado Edison Park had ever witnessed. It torn up plank side walks,which were used in those days,not only in Edison Park,Norwood Park and Canfield on the hill where it struckthe hardest. Trees were up rooted from Edison to Norwood Park,houses blown down,and I remember one freak incident ,where the tornado blew one house off its foundation of the two Fox Brothers,who lived aside each other on the hill. The the wind blew the other brothers house off and placed it on the other brothers foundation. In 1896 John Peterson built his home here, and was married in same on Aug.26.1896 by Rev R A Torre of the Moody Church. In 1901 our good friend Hiram Henry Fickett,and his family came and settled in the Old homestead previously built by John Sandles. In 1903 Samuel J Christley and his wife,came and purchased the building what is now known as the Ridgewood on Olmsted ave. On March 8.1909 August B Wallner and his family settled on the Northwest Highway. It was during this period that Edison Park badly needed new sewers,water,and also schools,and these problems were settled in a election,when the citizens voted their consent to joim the City of Chicago,which was in 1910. Our first Chicago police man was William Madden who settled on North Overhill ave.,in 1911. There are and were many other worthy settlers that could be mentioned here who all helped to make Edison Park what it is to day.

CHURCHES

EDISON PARK METHODIST CHURCH

In the Fall of 1891 the Rev.S.C.Leavell,then pastor of the Mayfair church,with the co-operation of William Zuetell, then station agent for the C&NW RY at Edison Park,began holding services in the railway station,as there no suitable building here at that time,for that purpose. The writer of this sketch well remembers as little boy,as he attended Sunday school class in this station,and enjoyed going there especially to see the trains go by. Yes we had some very nice teachers,and one of them was Minnie Dickinson Ball at that time. The actual church organization started on Nov.25.1891 in the home of Mrs L.Krum; The following trustees were appointed on Dec.8.1891-Charles A Wheldon-John Ettinger-William Zuetell-Christain Ebinger-Charles Stade-Captain W.P.Black of Park Ridge and Elmer Kletzing of Norwood Park. The building committee was appointed with the authorization to procure a site and to secure plans and estimates for a church building. The land on which the church and the parsonage formerly stood,part of the present holdings,was donated together with $500.00 in cash by the syndicate which help to developed this community. The corner stone was laid in the Spring of 1892,a frame structure,and the church was dedicated April 4.1892. Remodeling was made from time to time as the occasion required. The parsonage was erected in 1909. Like most churches in a good community it grew in membership, and the attendence in various services outgrew its Capacity,so a new fine church was erected and completed on April 3.1927 which we all are very proud of.

A List of fine ministers who helped to make this fine church what it is to day.

Name	Year they served.
S.C.Leavell	11/25/1891
W.W.Aylesworth	1892-1893
W.C.Sage	1893-1894
W.E.Putt	1894-1895
W.T.McDonald	1895-1897
L.A.McCaffree	1897-1899
J.W.Turner	1899-1901
W.W.Blair	1901-1902
Erwine Thompson	1902-1905
Walter Airhart	1905-1908
Robert Stephenson	1909-1911
Walter Firth	1911-1912
K.E.Anderson	1912-1913
M.S.Freeman	1913-1917
A.L.Fisher	1917-1918
W.B.Doble	1918-1923
Carl D Gage	1923-1930
W.W.Liston	1930-1932
Ray Honeywell	1932-1936
Ray E Bond	1936-1941
J.C.Spencer	1941-1951
Emerson S Colaw	1951-1958

EDISON PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

This fine church started during February 1925 with a small group of Worshippers who began meeting in a vacant store on Oshkosh ave., with services conducted by Rev.J.A.M.Hinderlie,Rev. W.A.Turnquist, Halvor Urness and Carsten Ronning. In March 1926,Rev K G Nilsen was named paster. In the next few months,the two lots on which the church now stands were purchased; A Constitution was drawn, and Rev Roy A Harrisville from Oconomwoc Wis.,was called to be the pastor,as Rev K.G.Nilsen had been called to another mission field in Chicago. During the later part of 1926 services were held in the Legion Hall on Oliphant ave.,where the well loved pastor Rev Harrisville conducted same, and thru his conscientious efforts, soon won the respect of many new memberships,and it became necessary to consider a new church building. So it happened on Feb.27.1927 when the church was offically organized, Steps were taken to collect funds to build a portable church,and only three weeks after the date of organization which was Feb.27.1927,that on March 20.1927 two inspiring services were held in this new edifice. Rev Roy A Harrisville was installed as its first pastor. Four months later,the membership charter was closed with 52 signatures. Within two years this church was too small to serve the purposes of the growing congregation, so in the Spring of 1929 it had been decided by the membership to build a new permanent church. Ground was broken in June 1929,the cornerstone laid in August 1929,and the fine edifice was erected and dedicated on Dec.22.1929. In 1938 the well liked pastor Rev Roy A Harrisville resigned to accept a call to the Trinity Lutheran Church of Moorhead Minn. Then in Feb.1951 the sad news came that the fine man had finished his mission on earth,which he had so nobly did,and never will be forgotten by his countless friends.
Then in Sept.1938 they were very fortunate to secure as their new pastor Rev A Gordon Nasby from Madison Wis.,and is still their pastor. His accomplishments in the church speak for themselves.

Early Christian Science Church

Two persons of Edison Park met once a week in the year 1897 to read the Journal"Science and Health" the following year they were joined by three more persons and others from Park Ridge who became interested and regular services were held in a hall and in 1902 the church was organized with 12 members under the name of First Church of Christ Scientist of Park Ridge and Edison. When the membership reached 22 they considered the need of a building. A lot in Canfield near Edison Park was donated by Mr L.L.Beman a well known architect whose father lived here and was greatly interested in the church. This with donations of $600.00 was considered enought to build a small building they had in mind. In Sept.16.1902 the corner stone was laid and on Oct.12th. the same year the church was dedicated. This building was constructed of cement and when finished cost about $3000.00. It seated 150 persons. Two meetings were held each week until it was destroyed by fire in 1910. A new lot was purchased on Park ave in Park Ridge at the cost of $1500.00 and a frame building was built and dedicated on 12/9/1917 at the cost of $11000.00,and seated 350 persons.

The Edison Park Evangelical Church
Oketo and Northshore aves.
Chicago 31 Ill.

This church is a member of the Evangelical Synod of North America, which is a union church,uniting the Lutheran and reformed branches of Protestantism,and which merged with the Reformed Church of the United States and United Brethren Church. On March 11.1924 it was decided to start a church here,so a house to house canvass was made by Pastors H.E.Hambrechte-George Goebel-J.J.Mayer- A.W.Bruechte and J.J.Braun. The first meeting was in a portable school house conducted by Rev.J.J.Braun,Mrs J.Hild and six children. The first service preached by Rev.H.P.Bloesch of Everette,Washington,as pastor in charge. On Dec.3.1925 they found that the title to the Owen ave property was clouded with irregularities of the Realtor, so the congregation decided not to wait any longer,but proceeded with the purchase of a stucco bungalow at Oketo ave.,and the Northwest Highway,to be used as the church. On Sept.1.1927 Rev Bloesch resigned to take charge in Bremen Indiana. On Oct.26.1927 Rev.J.J.Braun took charge. On April 23.1928 the congregational meeting passed resolution to purchase two pieces of property comprising of 112 feet frontage from North Shore ave.,south to the alley on Oketo ave,for the purpose of erecting a permanent structure. So on Jan.6.1929 a corner stone laying took place for the present beautiful edifice. After the resignation of Rev. J.J.Braun,his successors were Rev Glenn G.Gumm-Loyd Hageman-Lee Rockwell and the incumbent Rev Howard F.Boyer.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS for the COMMUNITY OF EDISON PARK ILL.
PAGEANT OF SCHOOLS.

Our first school was a log cabin,probably built about 1858 as I have been advised as a boy by a early settler who was Emil Huebach,who came out here from Chicago after the Great Chicago Fire of 1871,and purchased a small farm on the North west corner of what is now known as Iben st.,and Overhill ave. Of course this community was then known as Canfield. This log cabin school house was located near the Northwestern boundary line of this community in the open prairie. Mr Huebach told me that he did not know who actually attended the log cabin school,but said he thought some of the Indians went there. In my research of the early records,I found a similar statement mentioning this log cabin school.
Our second school which was built in 1870 in the Town of Brickton (now Park Ridge),was located on Grant place,and referred to as the Grant place school. Even the little tots in the lower grades in Edison Park had to walk to the Brickton school. This Grant place school consisted of two rooms at first,and a addition was added in 1881. Then there was three rooms occupied on the first floor by 150 scholars, taught by three teachers and one principal and two assistants. In the primary room of this school,small bits of sponge were tied to each desk with a string,for these children used slates instead of paper,and these were sponged off to erase the work on them. A hugh board fence enclosed a yard at the rear, and a like fence divided this yard down the center,providing separate play yards for the boys and Girls. A board walk ran the length of each yard to the Castles where toilets were installed,as there was neither running water,nor sewerage system at that time. These houses were kept clean and sanitary as scrub brush and soap,water and lime could make them.
Some children relate when attending this school,how they would carry their lunches with them,and when they examined those lunches at noon hour they often found that the mice had got there first. In 1885 Mr Schroeder was the Principal,and Miss Harriet Beaumont was a teacher in the upper grades,and later Miss Beaumont became the principal in this school as well as the new Central School which was erected in 1893.
Our third school was in the South room of the M.E.Church in Edison Park,and in this room it contained the first three grades for a Public School,and any children in the fourth or upper grades still had to go to the Central School in Park Ridge.

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In the M.E.Church school in Edison Park the first teacher was Miss Hurd,then the next was Miss A.Mc Nally,who later became Mrs Kingsbury. Our fourth school in Edison Park was in a residence located where what is now the S.E.corner of the Northwest Highway and Oshkosh ave. This contained the first to the fourth grades inclusive,and all students in the upper grades still had to go to Central school in Park Ridge. They started to use this residence as a school house in Edison Park about 1896. It was nat a pretentious affair,but far better than a log cabin,while it had those large pot bellied stoves in the rooms,and same had to answer the purpose. There were no toilets in the houses in those days,as there were no sewerage systems,or other sanitary conditions,we were furnished with a nature air cooled Castle,which was located on the south end of the property. How I remember the frame shed,boarded up with shiplap boards.divided with a partition,the east section for the boys and the west section for the girls,with a high fence attached down the center from the outside. The walls inside were beautifully decorated with the initials carved by many a goys jack knife. Yes those were the days. Our principal was Miss Harriett Beaumont,who was also the principal of the Central School in Park Ridge. Our first school teacher in this school was Miss Kingsbury, following her was Miss Farrington,Etta W Ward (the later became Mrs Suydan) Miss Marion Trimm(who later became Mrs Gillick),Miss Helen Trimm,Miss Mc Queen and Miss Nichols,Miss Julia Mc Nally who later became Mrs Ralph Snoad.
Our fifth school was erected in 1905,and located what is now known as 6755 Northwest Highway,and at the present used as a Public Library. Edison Park belong to the Township of Main School District, and when a new school was needed,it had to be voted upon by the citizens before it was permitted to be built. When Park Ridge Central School, was needed,which they did,they prompised Edison Park citizens to give them a school as soon as their Central school was paid for out of the taxes received from Township collections. But when this was nearly accomplished, it so happened there was a wonderful opportunity to purchase an adjoining three acres of land to that on which the Central school stood,caused by the death of Blacksmith Miller, who owned these three acres. The business men of Park Ridge were anious to buy these three acres,but the Park Ridge Board did not want them to have same,but they wanted this for school grounds. So when it came to a vote in an election,Park Ridge having more votes gained their point,and we sat here waiting for our new school. Then the question of a High School came up,Park Ridge naturally wanted that also,but I understand that Des Plaines Board came to Edison Park board,and promised in the next Election if we would permit Des Plaines to have the high school in their town,that they would vote for a new school for Edison Park.

The election took place, and we won our new school, and Des Plaines got the high school which was located at Thacker st & River Road. The Edison Park School was built by Oscar E Brooks, a general contractor. It has been estimated that the cost of this building was about $25000.00, judging from the price of labor and material at that time it was erected.
When the Central School in Park Ridge was opened up in the fall of 1893 it was to accommodate the students from Park Ridge as well as those from Edison Park from fifth grade up. Miss Harriet Beaumont was its first principal, and she held that position for several years. She was succeeded by Mr Blood, then by Mr Collins, Mr Merrill, Mr Smith and Mr Wells etc. This building was erected at the cost of $20000.00. Among the many fine school teachers that taught in this school were Miss Ford who probably taught the longest of all the teachers. She was well loved by all who she met and the little ones she so patiently taught, who are now married and have families of their own, will never forget her.
In 1921 there was a large one story addition built on this fine school. The original building stood for 37 years in constant use, burned down in the year 1930.
Our sixth school was the new Ebinger school located at 7350 Pratt ave., The Ebinger school was erected in 1927 at the approximate cost of $700,000.00, and named in honor of Rev. Christian Frederick Ebinger, who donated the land for school purposes. Mr Christian F. Ebinger was born on Feb. 12. 1812 in the City of Stuttgart, Wurtemberg, Germany. He came to America in 1831 with his parents John and Katherine Ebinger, and his brother John and sister Elizabeth, and they first settled in Ann Arbor Mich. Like most of the early settlers looking for better farming land, they removed to Chicago, and followed the Old Indian Trail to Dutchman's Point (now Niles) where a rattle snake bit their only horse, and it died, so they could not go any further, and this was their destiny, and this was in the year 1834. John Ebinger the father of our subject was an expert gardener, and at one time had charge of the gardens for the King of Wurtemberg, Germany. Our subject Rev Christian F Ebinger was the first ordained minister of the German Evangelical Assocition in the State of Illinois. He was also a very fine farmer, raised a lovely family, and his son Christian Ebinger was the first white child born in Niles T.S. Part of our subjects farm was in the Township of Main. The Ebinger school opened on Feb. 28. 1927, and the following is the list of its principals in order they served this fine school.

H. Gertrude Jaynes	1/12/27 to 8/22/28
Milton J Cohler	8/22/27 to 9/13/33
William L Smyser	9/13/33 to 9/17/34
Walter Shea	9/17/34 to 2/1/35
Edna D Simmons	2/1/35 to 3/15/44
William P Wilson	3/15/44 to 11/7/47
John H Beckerman	5/3/48 ~~xx~~ our present principal.

Our first High School was the Jefferson High School which was located on the site what is now known as 4626 N Knox ave., (in Mayfair) Chicago Ill. In Jan.1883 Frederick H and Catherine Cossett,who came from New York City N.Y. for one dollar conveyed the land on which this building stood. Jefferson Park was annexed to Chicago in June 1889. The enrollment in this High school was 120 pupils,some coming from Des Plaines-Park Ridge, Edison Park-Norwood Park-Jefferson Park-Mayfair-Niles Center-Irving Park and Avondale,as these Villages did not have a High school. Professor Cook was its first principal and retained that position until 1912,when he was succeeded by Miss Annie S. Newman. Finally this building was taken down and replaced by a large school building in 1923. Students from Des Plaines, Park Ridge and Edison Park(all in the Town of Main)attended this school until 1902 when the Town of Main build a new High school in Des Plaines,at Thacker st and River Road,where the students in the Town of Main enjoyed attending. Mr William L Smyser its first principal. The High school was used by the students of Edison Park only until 1910 when Edison Park joined Chicago,then those students went to the Carl Schurz High School. Our third High School was Carl Schurz High School,which was opened on Sept.6.1910 and located on Milwaukee ave near Waveland ave. This building originally held 1500 pupils,and was fully equiped with machine shops and apparatus for technical instructions. Originally this High School was called the John Gray High School after Mr John Gray who had been a school trustee of the Jefferson Village in 1869,and nearly a quarter of a century earlier in March 1845,he was on the first Board of School Inspectors in Chicago Ill. So when they started to erect this new high school, they were going to name it in his honor,but before it was completed it was re named Carl Schurz High school,after the dashing Cavalry leader,General Schurz,who fought at Gettysburg-Chattanooga,and he retrieved Bull Run and Chanchellorsville. Our fourth high school was the Taft High School in Norwood Park. This high school was named in honor of our President Howard Taft. It was erected at the cost of $1,300,000.00,and was opened on Sept.5.1939 to accommodate the students of Norwood Park,Edison Park and nearby community. Mr Leo A Hoefer was its first principal andretained that position until his death on June 27. 1954,when he passedaway.

The Main Township High school located at Dempster and Potter Roads, was erected at the cost of approximately $1,000,000.00 and was opened in March 1930 to accommodate the students in the Township of Main. Mr C.M.Himel was its first principal.

NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S HOME
6000 N CANFIELD AVE.
Chicago 31 Ill.

The Norwegian Lutheran Children's Home started in Mrs Sophie Michaelson's home in the name of JESUS on the 14th day of Jan.1892 with the very modest sum of five cents. After a long struggle,a building-Martin Luther College at Irving Park Boul.,and Fifty eight ave-finally was rented,and on May 11.1898 the Home was dedicated in the name of the Triune God by Dr J.M.Kidahl. He was the father of Mr Lars S.Kildahl the present Executive Director of this wonderful institution. On that day six children were received. These with the four previously received made a total of ten children in the home. In 1907 the Home burned down,the immates barely escaping their lives. After this the property at Edison Park was secured, (which was Servos farm on Canfield Road) mainly thru the bequest of $5000.00 by George T Bessesen. Thru various bequests such as Mr & Mrs E.A.Seaver of the Moe-Seaver Building and the bequest of Mr O.L.Uthus of $50,000.00 and others made it possible to inaugurate a foreward movement at the Institution to meet the steadily growing demands upon the benevolent service of the Home. The Moe -Seaver Building was dedicated with impressive ceremonies on Dec.26.1927. Over a period of thirty one years,no less than a thousand children have been cared for at this wonderful Institution. It was thru the hard work and patience of the early Presidents and Superintendents of this Institution,that attained the success it has advanced. Among the early Presidents of the Society,we find the names of Rev's John Hetland-C.T.Rygh-and Lars Harrisville,the later serving for a period of six years and putting his whole heart and soul into the work. Rev Lars Harrisville was the father of Rev Roy A Harrisville,the pastor of the Edison Park Lutheran Church. The superintendents of the Home have been Miss Anna Abrhamsen,who served faithfully thru trials an struggles of poverty during the early formative years. In 1907 she resigned and her place was taken by Deaconess Caroline Williams,who by reason of her special qualifications did especially fine work in the interest of the Home. A number of others then served as superintendents,who in turn were followed by Sister Martha Bakke,and it has been during her time that great advansces in the institution have been made. She succeeded by well known and capable superintendent Mr Lars S Kildahl,who so faithfully served from 1929 to 1954 a period of 25 years,and now acting in the capacity of Executive Director of this institution. Mr Ralph F Schroeder the present superintendent,is taken over the important duties of that office. Mr Einar N Engebrietson is the present President of the Institution.

SUMMARY of Events of the Community
in which we live.

year

.1669 Robert Cavelier Sieur de La Salle explored this territory and named it Louisiana in honor of the King of France.

1670 Jacques Marquette came and made his exploration.

1671 The Miamis Indians is suppose to have settled, and formed a Confederacy with the Illinoi & Kickapoos Indians.

1673 Louis Joliet made his exploration.

1679 Tonti also made his exploration. During the first quarter of the 18th century, the Pottawatomies, Ottawa's and Chippewas drove most of Miamis Indian Confederacy out, except a few on the banks of the Wabash River. The last of the Indians gathered on the summit of Starved Rock in Illinois, and were besieged by their enemies, and only a few ever lived to tell the tale.

1763 By the Treaty of Paris the Illinois Country passed to Great Britian.

1776 The American Revolution.

1778 George Rogers Clark, and his intrepid Virginians wrested from the British all this Northwest Territory.

1778 On 12/12/1778 this territory was organized as the County of Illinois of the State of Virginia, by the Legislator of Virginia. It included parts of Ohio, all of Indiana, southern part of Wisconsin and southern part of Michigan. John Todd was appointed Lieutenant Commandant by Patrick Henry, then Governor of the State of Virginia.

1795 On 8/3/1795 all this land was ceded by the Indians to the United States in a Treaty at Greenville Ohio.

1800 The County of Illinois or the Northwest Territory was into States.

1812 During the War of 1812 with the British, a massacre took place at Fort Dearborn, and the following day the Fort was burned.

1816 The British were driven from the Great Lakes and Fort Dearborn was rebuilt.

1818 On 12/3/18 Illinois with its present boundary lines was admitted as a State.

1821 Pike County was created, and included all the territory North of the Illinois & Kankakee Rivers, and east of the Mississippi River to the northern boundary line of the State.

1823 Part of Pike County was taken amd made into Fulton Co.

1825 Part of Fulton County was taken and made into Peoria County, which included Cook County.

1829 Treaty of Prairie Du Chien in July 1829 set aside two large Indian Reservations, which Leyden Township, for Alexander Robinson and Claude La Framboise.

1831 Cook County was taken from Peoria County, and on 1/15/1831 Chicago became the County seat.

1833 Chicago was Incorporated. Also on 9/26/1833 The Great Indian Treaty took place in Chicago, which ended the Blackhawk War, and settled all claims of the Indians in this territory.

1834 Rev.Christian F.Ebinger and his brother-in-law John Plank settled on the Ridge on what was later known as Niles Township. Although part of Mr Ebinger's farm laid in what was later called Edison Park.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE.
Keep in mind that all this territory was just known as Cook County at this time.

1836 Part of Cook County was taken and made into Will County.
1836 John Boyd settled in what was later called Canfield.
1839 Part of Cook County was taken and made into Du Page & Lake Counties. The balance of Cook County which contained 946 square miles ,still remained as Cook County.Cook County was named after Daniel P.Cook,a Kentuckian by birth, and he served four terms in Congress for Northern Illinois.
1842 United States Government deeded on 6/3/1842 160 acres of land to John Boyd,which he paid them at the rate of $21.00 per acre.
1846 Friederick Blume purchased his farm,and paid $5.00 per acre.
1850 Congressional Precincts and Townships were created.
1850 Township of Niles was Organized.
1850 Monroe Precinct was created,and this contained the following:

West ½ Jefferson T.S. in 1850 → Norwood Township in 1873

Leyden Township on 4/2/1850

Portion of Main Township in 1850 and this contained the following

Canfield on 7/10/1858 Then Ridgelawn on 3/20/1875 then Roseneath 12/17/1889 then Edison Park 5/17/1890 Then Chicago in 1910.

Chamblee 1850 Then Pennyville then Brickton in 1858 then Park Ridge 7/4/1873

Rand 9/5/1857 then Des Plaines on 4/15/1869

1851 The Illinois & Wisconsin Land Co.,bought a track of land consisting of 300 acres,which they paid for same at the rate of $21.00 per acre,and then sub-divided it into lots, blocks,and streets,in this community.

1853 On 1/3/1853 John Boyd deeded his property to Eli Chittenden with the exception of 3.74 acres which was set aside for depot property of the Illinois & Wisconsin R.R.Co.

1854 Eli Chittenden deeded his property mentioned above plus 60 acres to O.C.Mitchell on 9/19/1854.

1854 O.C.Mtichell deeded his property to the trustee's of the Illinois & Wisconsin Land Co. The Trustees were Eli Chittenden- John Felton-and Rueben Demon.

1854 On Tuesday Oct.1.1854 the first train was operated over the newly completed Illinois & Wisconsin R.R.

1854 On 2/14/1854 Thomas H Canfield,a financier came from the State of Vermont,became a shareholder in the Illinois & Wisconsin Land Co.

1858 On 7/10/1858 all this land was sub divided and recorded as the town of Canfield,as shown in Book #143 Page #81 in Cook County records in Chicago Ill.and no doubt this town was named in honor of Thomas H Canfield. Thru the kind help from Mr M.A.Bonfiglio,a Trust Officer of the Chicago Title and Trust Co. of Chicago,the above information was given me under date of 2/8/1954.
Due to the Panic of 1857 this venture was not very successful, and some of the land sold for $40.00 to $50.00 per acre.

1858 Hiram Canfield bought some lots in Canfield on 7/9/1858

1859 On 6/6/1859 the railroad company changed its name to the Chicago & Northwestern R R.

1868 On 4/4/1868 William Ely bought his farm on Canfield Road

1870 Annie R.Sammons(daughter of William Ely and mother of Mildred Sammons who died in 1952) was deeded some property on Canfield Road on 10/3/1870.

1872 Emil Huebach purchased his small farm from G.Tanner on April 18.1872.

1875 Under date of March.20.1875 as recorded in Book #9 Page #68 of the Cook County records,Mr A.C.Badeau purchased 60 acres of the Town of Canfield at the price of $600.00 per acre. This particular piece of land laid North of the railroad tracks in the Town of Canfield. Mr Badeau had this re-subdivided and name one of the streets in his honor,which was Badeau and now known as Ottawa ave. When Mr Badeau purchased this land,he renamed it Ridgelawn,account of the dividing ridge between the North Branch of the Chicago River and the Des Plaines River. The balance of the Town of Canfield which laid south of the tracks was still called Canfield,and often referred to as Canfield on the hill by early settlers. A Mr G.H.Pierce, who was a building contractor,work with Mr Badeau,with the intentions of construcking several residents,but nothing was done,and the Village was not built. There were only two houses in the community,one being Mr Emil Huebach's home and the other John Boyds homestead,which later was used for a railroad depot at that time.

1885 August Wollenzien came.

1885 Theodore Schwiesow

1888 Carlton Dickinson

1889 George W Knoll on 5/30/1889

1889 On 12/17/1889 Ridgelawn was re named Roseneath as per Book #39 Page #32 of the County records.

1889/90	The C&NW Ry station was erected.
1890	On 5/17/1890 Roseneath was changed to Edison Park per Book #41 page #20.
1890	The following people came to Edison Park. William Zuetell-Mr Mc Cabe-Mr Butler-Gurido F.A.Greiner-John Stade-Charles A Wheldon.
1890	The residence what was known as the Arden,was used as a school house.
1891	George B Campbell came.
1891	George Helmkamp our first Town Marshall.
1892	The following came here-Adam Amory Alboright-William Miller-Mr Tenny-Mr Mc Ginus-Henry C Willis.
1892	M.E.Church erected.
1893	Charles A Miller-Oscar E Brooks-John Sandles.
1894	United Evangelical Church was constructed,at Pratt and Oxford aves. Now used as a residence.
1895	John F Wilson
1896	John Peterson
1896	On May 26.1896 the Great Cyclone struct Edison Park.
1901	Hiram Henry Fickett.
1903	Samuel J Christley and his wife Rella Christley.
1909	August B Wallner
1910	Edison Park joined Chicago
1911	William Madden our 1st Chicago police man.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF EDISON PARK

REV.CHRISTIAN FREDERICK EBINGER,our earliest citizen,was born near the City of Stuttgart,Wurtemberg,Germany on Feb.8.1812. He came with his father and mother,John & Katherine Ebinger and his two brothers,Frederick-John and his sister Elizabeth to America and settled in Ann Arbor Michigan in the year 1831. They did not stay there very long,and moved westward, John and Katherine Ebinger the father and mother of our subject, were natives of Wurtenberg,Germany. He was reared as a expert gardener and a florist,and for a number of years had charge of gardens of King William of Wurtemberg,Germany. In May 1834 he pre-emptied 80 acres of land in Ann Arbor Mich.,and came to Chicago and examined the land where Lincoln Park is now located, but they did not think it suitable for farming purposes,followed the Old Indian trail leading towards Milwaukee,which subsequently known as the Plank Road. They advanced as far as Dutchman's Point(known as Niles) on the ridge,where they encountered a rattle snake,which bit their only horse,which became sick and died,and they could not go any further,decided to stay there. He built a log cabin(24 x 14 feet) and began life in the true pioneer style. His son John married Elizabeth Plank and his daughter Elizabeth married John Plank. Our subject Christian F.Ebinger married Miss Barbara Ruehle,who was born August 11.1812 in Indebach,near Stuttgart,Germany. Her parents were Joseph and Barbara ((Schwegler) Ruehle. Her mother died when Mrs Ebinger was eight years old. After her mother's death,Mrs Ebinger came to America in 1832,with her father and step-mother. They also settled in Ann Arbor Mich.,where she met Christian F Ebinger. Her father died only six weeks after his arrival in Ann Arbor Mich. She lived with her step-mother until her marriage to Christian F. Ebinger. They all set out for Chicago and placed all their luggage or belongings in a light one horse wagon,in which the Old people rode,while the young couple made their honeymoon trip on foot. Before the end of the year 1834 there were four log cabins erected on the Ridge at Dutchman's Point. Commencing at the south,was Frederick's cabin,then John's cabin,then Christian F Ebinger cabin and finally John Plank's cabin. Christian F. Ebinger was reared in the Lutheran Church,but in 1840 became identified with the German Evangelical Association,and was the first minister to be ordained in Illinois,and acted in that capacity, also as a excellant farmer,until his death on March 24.1879,and was buried in the Norwood Home Cemetery. In 1850 Christian F Ebinger was appointed Assessor and Overseer of the poor in the township. When the Ebinger's settled in Niles in 1834,they never kept tavern,but travelers were sure to be entertained by them, and a nights lodging was gladly given,as no pioneer turned away from his door a prospective settler.

Those who had already established homes were exceedingly anxious to have others locate near them, and hence in many instances kept Public House. Christian F Ebinger donated a piece of property for school purposes, and later on this piece of property was erected a beautiful new school, costing about $700,000.00 during the year 1927, and this school was named after him. A good portion of Christian F Ebinger farm was located in the Town of Main or Edison Park, and the balance was where the St.Adalberts Cemetery is now. Christian F Ebinger and his wife Barbara left a very fine family to carry on the good work which they so nobly advanced. Their children were as follows:

Christian Ebinger who married Miss Elizabeth Stryker.
This son was the first white child to be born in Niles Township.
Mary Ebinger who married Henry Giffert
Henry Ebinger married Miss Maria ?
Elizabeth Ebinger married William Neff
Daniel died at the age of five.
Sarah Ebinger married William Weathers
Louise Ebinger married William Grafus
Caroline Ebinger married M.J.Wood
William R Ebinger lived in Aurora Ill.

FRIEDRICK BLUME was not only a early settler in this community but was one of its most valued citizen. He was born about 1810,and his wife was born March 15.1811,both from Hanover Germany. He was an excellent farmer,and in the year 1846 came to America and settled in this community before it was even called the Town of Canfield,but was just called Cook County. When the Illinois & Wisconsin R.R.,was built it went thru his farm. In later years he sold that portion of his farm which laid south of the tracks. When the railroad was finally built this community was known as Canfield and the railroad station was called accordingly. While there was no depot at first, nothing but a long platform,which was frequently filled with milk cans of the farmers. An old farm house was used as a depot for the railroad,and was located about 200 feet east of on what is now called the Northwest Highway near Oliphant ave. Yes this was real wilderness when Mr Friedrick Blume came. He built a log cabin at first as most early settlers did, as logs were easily obtained from the woods around here. Later he used this log cabin for a hog pen,and built a small frame house,a later made additions and remodeled itand this house stills stand to day. As stated before this was wilderness,as there was no Post Office around the corner,so one day Mr Blume received a letter from some relative in Germany,and it was addressed as follows:"Friederick Blume Chicago Ill.,with a notation on the envelope stating that he drives two Schimmels on Plank Road,this meaning he drives two Gray Horses on Plank Road" and he got the letter. Mr Blume went in for general farming or mixed farming,raising cattle and hogs and small grains. He also left a very fine family to carry on the work which he so noblely advanced. His family consisted of Dorothy who married John Wingert,Frederick -Henry-Louise-who married Frederick Rotermund,William-Minnie-and Sophia Blume. When subject purchased his land he only paid $5.00 per acre,while this amount seems cheap now,it was a lot of money in those days. He like other settlers had to work hard to make both ends meet. His fine family helped,and they made a success. In Later years his son Henry Blume still remained in the old homestead,and his brother William Blume built a home a few hundred feet East of the homestead,and that is still standing. William Blume probably had the first apiary in this community,and was known for the fine honey he obtained from the bees,which he sold. Our subject Friedrick Blume died on Aug.21.1876 and his wife died on May 27.1899,and both are buried in the Norwood Home Cemetery. Now Henry Blume the son of our subject raised a very fine family consisting of Edward-Lydia-Caroline-Fred-Adella and Henry Blume Jr.

Edward Blume established the first milk delivery route in Edison Park, using the milk from their own cows on the farm. Later Fred joined his brother Edward and started the ice business and finally they went into the Coal-Wood and feed business in Edison Park. Adella Blume became an expert accountant and taught bookkeeping in California. William Blume the son of our subject also had a lovely family namely Walter-Mabel-Eugene-Elvira-Clarence- and Florence. The young people of Edison Park will never forget the kindness of Henry Blume the son of our subject, who had a large pond behind his barn, which the cattle would drink from. During the Winters this pond naturally froze, and he was kind enough to all the boys and girls in the community, far and near, to use for skating on, and we will never forget those many happy hours of enjoyment.

WILLIAM ELY another early settler came to this community and bought some farm land as recorded on April 4.1868 which was located east of what is now called Olaphant ave or Canfield Road, about 150 feet North of Talcott ave., and on Oct.3.1870 he deeded this property to his married daughter Mrs Annie R. Sammons, who was the mother of Mildred Sammons who most of us know so well. Mildred Sammons died in the year 1952. In 1867 a new brick school was erected in Park Ridge and among the first teachers to teach there was the daughter of our subject, Miss Annie R Ely, who at that time received a salary of $1.12½ per day.

Emil Huebach one of the finest cartographer in America,was born in Germany on Sept.6.1838 and his wife E mma also born in Germany on March 7.1840,came to America and settled in Chicago. After the great Chicago Fire in 1861 they decided to move out as most of the people did,and on April 18.1872 he bought a few acres of land from a man named Mr G.Tanner. This property was then located what is now known as the Northeast corner of Overhill ave and Ibsen st.,and it extended back as far as what is known as Oriole ave. Ibsen st was not there at that time,but instead a large creek ran down what is now called Ibsen st. and finally this creek was used as an outlet for our sewers at that time. This creek emptied into the North Branch of the Chicago River. Finally the people in Niles complained and we had to seek another source for our disposal of sewerage and had to join Chicago,which in turn built us better sewer system. This creek was finally filled in over a course of time. At one time Mr Emil Huebach had a large barn which extended over the creek, what is now called Ibsen st. Part of this barn he had a small grocery business,also sold hay,and small grains to the farmers around the community. Our subject drew maps for the firm of Rand Mc Nally, Penna R.R. and also C&NW Ry.and several others. We are told by some of the early settlers that he was assigned to draw up a new map of Chicago,which he did,and same was stolen and he never received any renumeration for it. Our subject was a very intelligent man,could speak seven different languages and also was a good piano player. He too left a fine family consisting of Pauline-Agnes-Emma and Henry. His son Henry was often called "Colonial Huebach" and was liked by many friends. He was the first son of any family in Edison Park to join the army as a volunteer,and this was in the Spanish American "ar. When Henry came back from the army as a private,they gave him a great reception which all will remember that lived in Edison Park at that time. After coming back from the "ar,Henry went to work in the Chicago Post Office in 1906~~7~~ and remained there for several years and finally came out to Norwood Park Post Office where he worked up to his death. His father our subjeut died Oct.14.1913 and his mother died Oct.18.1915,Henry died Oct.1.1940 and his wife Lillian died May 3.1930 and all were buried in the Town of Main Cemetery.

AUGUST WOLLENZIEN,a expert carpenter,and farmer,married a Aunt of Theodore Schwiesow. They worked the farm of Amos. J.Snell at one time,and this was located on the Northside of what is now called Northwest Highway,opposite the Janes Estate. He built several buildings and different work for Amos J Snell who was the operator of several of the Toll Gates or Pikes as they called them,on Various plank roads leading out of Chicago. This farm consisted of 12 acres and it was on this farm as the early settlers claim stood the first log cabin school house. August Wollenzien's lovely family consisted of Fred-Freeda-Adolph-Ferdinand-Gustee and Elsie.

AMOS J SNELL the owner of the farm which August Wollenzien work,also operated the Toll Gates or Pikes at Jefferson Park another at Dutchman's Point,known as Snell Pikes. He also furnished scrub timber to the C&NW Ry.,for locomotive fuel, which his principal supply were on the banks of the Chicago River and Hubbard Woods. He had accumulated a large fortune for its day,but cost Snell his life in a murder mystery,never fathomed of 1888. His son died in a north side slum.

THEODORE SCHWIESOW-an expert truck farmer and well known citizen,was born Oct.26.1853 in Mecklenburg,Germany. He landed in Chicago in 1872,and stayed at his mother's sister home at 20th and Wood sts.,for awhile. He first worked in a ship building yard. Part of the time he would help his Uncles out on their farms,which were in the Vicinity of Irving Park Boul.,and Harlem ave. Finally they persuaded him to start a small farm,which was probably the first truck farmer around this community. His Uncles loaned him some farming tools,as he had only $23.00 of his own. He arranged with the landlord to go along with him as to the price of the rent which the landlord gladly did. This farm was located east of Harlem ave and between Montrose and Lawrence aves. He got married on Jan.13.1877 to his wife Minnie. By working hard they made good as all honest people do. His wife was born Sept.16.1860 in Starnberg,Germany. Later they moved to a farm on Higgins Road,about one mile west of Harlem ave. They stayed there eight years and finally came to Edison Park in 1885,and bought 15 acres of farm land from J.B.Foote. This farm was located on the East side what is now known as Overhill ave.,North of Emil Huebach farm,and extending back to Oriole ave. The compiler of this sketch bought the two southern acres of this farm later. Theodore Schwiesow was a very fine man, always willing to help everybody,and raised a very fine family consisting of Ferdinand-Elizabeth-Theodore-David-William-Walter and Lillie(twins) and Huldah. Our subject relates back in the early days,an old settler who had purchased a large track of land near Harlem ave,which he evidently paid very little to Indians for,had a man working for him for a week but did not have any cash and offered 80 acres of land to him in exchange for his labor,which the man accepted.

Mr & Mrs (Molly) Servoss,about the year 1873 Mr & Mrs Molly Servoss came an located on a small farm on Canfield Road, where the present Norwegian Children Home is to day. Mr Servoss was the owner of the Servoss Northen & Co.,who were manufacturer of Electric Heaters and Hot Air Furnesses. Molly Servoss raised an extra fine breed of chickens and Collie Dogs.

CARLTON DICKINSON was born in Victor New York,and he married Melvina Darling Eyles who also was born in Victor N.Y. They came to Edsion Park about 1888 and located on what is known as Overhill ave.,opposite the Schwiesow farm. He worked in the drug department of the Fair Store,and later years rented land and worked a small farm. The writer of this subject as a boy going to school,would work for this gentleman in his spare time and learned a great deal about farming and gardening,and how to raise and take care of animals. He took great interest in me as if I were his own son,and we became good friends. I remember one summer he and his family went on a vacation for a month,and left the cow,two horses and two pigs and chickens to another man and me to take care of. Well the pigs got out of their pen,and I chasing all over the town trying to catch them,which I finally did,and carried these two pigs over my shoulders to the pen where they belonged. Where ever Mr Dickinson went I too had to go along and drive the horses which was my delight,and I will never forget his kindness and helpfulness shown to me in the past. He passed away in the old house once owned by Mr Thayer which was located on what is now Oliphant ave,about where Ozanan comes in. He left a very fine family namely Erminnia(Minnie)Aurora Dickinson,who became Mrs Fred Ball-George Carlton-,who married Miss Lillie Roe-Waldo Phelps who married Miss Nellie Black-Maude Viola who married Walter Wheeler-Rawson LeRoy who married Miss Bertha Miller-Edna Darling-Ethel Jeannette-Peraland Earl-(twins) Charles Chester who became a doctor and Leah Melvina. Our subject and his wife are buried in the Union Ridge Cemetery.

GEORGE W.KNOLL also an early settler,was born on June 5.1860 on a farm in Newport Ill.,now called Wadsworth Ill. His father and mother later removed to Monaville Ill.,which is East Fox Lake Ill.,built a large building which contained a general merchandise store,living quarters in the rear of the building, an a large dance hall on the second floor. In this store was also the post office for East Fox Lake community,which his father was postmaster for 15 years. His father and mother came from Germany and settled first in Waukegan Ill. The early ancestors of our subject including his father and brothers,his own son and grandson all played the violin. George W Knoll like his father and brothers were carpenters and cabinet makers by trade. He was also a machinist. He taught the Spencerian hand writing,which he was an artist at. Caroline (Sheldon) Richards on Oct.25.1885 became the wife of George W Knoll. They lived first on the Rollin farm at Fourth Lake Ill. Then they removed to Chicago on Southport ave.,and finally came to Edison Park Ill.,on May 30.1889. He died February 8 .1917 and was buried in Union Ridge Cemetery. His wife was born August 9. 1861 in the Township of Munson,Geauga County Ohio. She came with her father and mother (Squire and Maryann Sheldon) in covered wagon to Fourth Lake Ill.,where her father had bought 320 acres of land and went into the general farming,raising a fine breed of horses and hogs. Tracing the genealogical record of the early Sheldon's we find Mrs Caroline Sheldon the wife of George W Knoll that she comes down thru a lineage from a certain Gilbert Sheldon who had risen in the Church of England the rank of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England. Her Grand father was a Green Mountain boy and raised in Vermont. Her mother Mary Ann (Hazen) Sheldon was one of the main charactors in the book entitled "The Yankee of the West" written by O.P.Read a noted author. The wife of our subject first married Benjamin Richards,a farmer who had a farm near Sand Lake Ill.,on which they had a log cabin in which their two daughters Grace and Elnora Richards were born. After Mr Richards death she married our subject and they moved to Chicago ,and then to Edison Park Ill.,where she died at the old age of 91 years on May 5.1952 and was also buried in the Union Ridge Cemetery. She actually live in Edison Park for 63 years of her life and known by most of all the early settlers of her helping hand for everybody. Our subject and his wife had a family of six children,namely Ruth Goldie-Walter Joseph-Louis John- Minnie and Mabel (twins) Nellie May and Herbert George. Our subject being a carpenter was hired by the famous artist Adam Amory Albright to construct a log cabin for his studio,and with the help of his son Walter J.Knoll,same was accomplished.

WILLIAM ZUETELL and early settler,born in Prussia on April 15.1857,came to America in 1865 when only eight years old. In 1889 he started the Real Estate business,and in 1890 he came to Edsion Park with his wife and one son Walter Zuetell. He served as one of our first depot agents,Express and Insurance agents. He had married Miss Matilda B.Leesveld,and they had three children,namely Walter the oldest,who is now the Supt. of Building for the City of Pasadena California. Edison named after Edison Park,and he was the first baby boy to be born in Edison Park,and then there was the Lola. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He also served as Justice of Peace in Edison Park from 1890 to 1899.

MR MC CABE also an early settler came to Edison Park about 1890 and built the large house on the corner of what is now known as Oshkosh and Olmsted aves.,opposite the bank building. He was a building contractor with Mr Butler.

GURIDO Friedorlin Alfred Greiner was born in Veilsdors-Kloserveildor,Germany,near Byron on April 30.1838. His wife Constance (Ripple) Greiner was born in Saalseld, Germany on April 18.1848. They both came over to America about 1871,landed in Chicago,where our subject followed the Occupation of serving or repairing sewing machines. When they came to Edison Park about 1890 they built their home where what is known as N.W.Corner of Overhill ave and the Northwest Highway. They went into the bottle beer business and use to deliver the beer in a wagon drawn by the only pair of Buckskin horses around this community. They handled this beer business in a very orderly fashion,and did not allow anybody to drink on their premises from which this business was conducted,as they too wanted to bring uptheir children in the best atmosphere as could be otained in their time. Everybody loved this couple as they were always willing to help any person deserving of help. A strange thing happened one night,as they were robbed and owning two large Newfoundland dogs which were in the house at the time,as well as three big sons,the robbers succeeded in their attemp,and the family did not know until the next morning what had occured. Our subject and his wife left the following children: namely Miss Julia Griener who became Mrs Charles Reiling, Max-Fred and Ernst Griener.

JOHN STADE was our first plasterer,and brick layer to come Edison Park which was about 1890. He lived with his family on what is now called Ottawa st. He did considerable work in and around this community. They had the following children: Maude-John-Frank-Charlie-Amanda-Mary-and Otto.

MR TENNEY had the first fuel oil route in Edison Park.

CHARLES A.WHELDON also an early settler in Niles T.S. was born 1865. He married Miss Martha Ebinger who was the daughter of Christian Ebinger,and he was the son of Rev Christian F Ebinger. She was born in 1865. Our subject grand father and Grand mother, James Weldon and Sarah(Bins) Wheldon were both natives of England, came to America in 1832 and settled in Niles T.S. Their children were Elizabeth who became the wife of Joseph Bickerdike,Sarah Wheldon the wife of John Winston,Thomas Weldon married Miss Mary Ann Paylor, and they were the parents of our subject. Thomas Wheldon inherited the Old homestead and was appointed Overseer of the Highways in District #1 in Niles T.S. He had five sons,namely James A-Charles A our subject,Thomas J.George W. and Joseph Abel Wheldon who married Myra Ebinger,daughter of the late Christian Ebinger. Our subject came to Edison Park about 1890 and built the first grocery store in this town,with living quarters on the second floor. This store stood on the N.W.Corner of now what is called Oliphant and Olmsted aves.,. Later this store was operated by Charles A Low, and George Wolff worked for him. Finally George Wolff took over store and operated it with the help of Nick Rose. One day this building burned down,and George Wolff moved over to his new quarters on Olmsted ave. Our subject and his lovely wife were one of the finest couples that any person wish to get acquainted with. They did a great deal to help many a person in this community. Mr Chas. A Wheldon work ahile for the Siegel Cooper & Co.,and later for the Marshall Field & Co. They too left a lovely family consisting of Carlton who married Miss Ella Reiling,Mary-George and Evelyn. Our subject died in 1949 and his wife died in 1941,both buried in Union Ridge Cemetery.

GEORGE HELMKAMP a very tall man,came to Edison Park in 1891 with his wife. He was a expert carpenter and builder,and did considerable contracting in and around this community. He was our first Town Marshall in Edison Park. The duties of the Marshall beside acting as a police man,he had to fix all the wooden plank sidewalks where necessary,cut the weeds in the parkways,and look after the pumping station for water.

GEORGE B CAMPBELL was born in Ireland in 1854 and his wife was born in 1853, they came to Edison Park in 1891 and first lived in the Helmkamp house a while until their home was being built on what is now called Owen ave. If there was ever a helping hand to any neighbors in this town,it was this fine couple. No words of thanks could ever repay the kind deeds done by either. Mr Campbell help to make this town what it is today. He fought for are interest especially in the school question with Park Ridge Board of Education, until we finally got our new school,which was located on the North-west Highway which is now the Library. They were both instrumental in making the Methodist Episcopal Church a success. The writerof this sketch would like to find words to express his deep appreciation of the kindness shown him by this wonderful couple. Their fine family consisted of William,George,Norah,H.Gordon,the Twins,May and Waldo Campbell.

WILLIAM MILLER and his wife came to Edison Park about 1892,and they were a very fine couple. He was once President of the Village Board of Edison Park when it was a Village. He took a prominent part in the Village.

MR MC GUINIS who came to Edison Park about 1892. He was a contractor and built several homes here. One was the Ridgewood which is located what is now known as Olmsted ave and near the corner of Oliphant ave on the North side of the street. This Ridgewood was originally built as a hotel,with hopeful thought that they may attract and accommodate visitors to the World Exposition of 1893 in Chicago,but finally it turned out to be a unsuccessful adventure. Later this building was bought by Mr Cristley and his wife.

Henry C.Willis came to Edison Park about 1892,and he married Jennie Snoad who was the daughter of Charles Snoad who married Lavina Mac Donald. Charles Snoad and his wife was the first to operate the hotel in Park Ridge which stood where the Gillick's Realestate office is now. There family consisted of Ralph who married Julia Mac Nally,who was once a school teacher in Edison Park. Then there was Jennie Snoad who married H.C.Willis,and Clara and Rosella Snoad. Mr Charles Snoad was in the real estate business in Edison Park and also for ahwile the post master in the old Langdon's store. Our subject was a teacher and a principal in the Des Plaines Schools at one time. His family consisted of three swell children,namely Harry,Ray,and Eva Willis,all of whom we think a great deal of. Ray and Harry Willis once operated the Beaman farm which was located on Ozanan,Belleplaine and Wash.sts. On this farm was a large pond which was formerly a wild Buffalo wallow. Most of the young people then will remember the happy hours of skating on this pond.

ADAM AMORY ALBRIGHT a famous artist from York County,Pennsylvania to Edison Park in 1892 and located near the corner of what is now called as Overhill and Lunt aves. He built his hosue on the second lot from the corner,and later had George W Knoll and his son Walter,construct a log cabin to be used as a studio. This was acoomplished and what a beauty it was. People would come out from Chicago to see his pictures as well as the log cabin which was a drawing feature. The writer has been told that Adam E.Albright's father was a gunsmith,and wanted his son to follow his trade and tried to discourage him to be a painter,but Adam E.Albright stuck to painting an has certainly made a success of his profession. The Mid West School of Painters formed a artist colony around the "Little Red House" a studio of James Patterson in Park Ridge,and among these in the fore ranks were Walter Clute and Adam E Albright. The writer of this sketch use to pose for Mr Albright as well as many other boys and girls of Edison Park, and he was liked by all who knew him. He was always full of fun and telling stories. He related to me one day that a certain man and his wife in Edison Park visited him to see his various fine paintings,so for identification purposes we will call this certain man Mr X. After seeing the various paintings,Mr Albright ask Mr X and his wife if they would like to see where he painted the pictures,so as they were also anious to see the spot,they gladly consented,so Mr Albright and his wife took them over to the place where he actually painted two different pictures. Mr X lingered along a little longer than usual,because he had notice something moving in the bushes,while Mr Albright and the two ladies went over to the place where the other picture was painted. Mr X called to the little black kitten as he thought it was,and then Mr Albright yelled,get away from it,but soon the little black creature moved out from the bushes and sprayed Mr X with a liquid that was not perfume. Mr Albright and the two wives ran home and shut themselves in the cabin,and when Mr X got there he naturally wanted to get in and clean up,but Mr Albright would not let him in. So Mr X said what shall I do, Mr Albright yelled better to bury your self. Our subject had three fine sons,namely Lisle-Melvin and Ivan. The last two were twins. Our subjects Great,Great gnand fathers brother was the founder of the German Reform Church of the German Evangelical Association.

CHARLES MILLER and his wife Marie came to Edison Park in 1893 and built their home on the second lot East of what is known as Oshkosh and Olmsted aves,or the building East of the Bank building on Olmsted ave.Later occupied by the Crofoot family and Langdon's. In the store below at that time was once occupied by our first cobbler Mr Schoenstdd. Later it was used as a candy store and also a post office. Our subject was a plasterer and in the vacant lot where the bank now stands, you could see him mixing slack lime and making plaster in the various large boxes made for that purpose,as a school boy the writer like other boys to stand around and watch him make this plaster. Mr Charles Miller and his wife had the following children- Charles Jr-Minnie-Otto-Ernst-Gustav-Bertha-Emil. In later years Mr Miller sold this building and moved over on Canfield on the Hill.

WILLIAM DEERE was our first barber in Edison Park and he had this shop in the middle of the block on Olmsted ave. At one time Ferdinand Wollenzien of Canfield on the Hill, who was depot agent,attemped to operate a barber shop. He would often leave a customer in the chair waiting while he ran across the street to the depot just before any train would pull into the station to take of his railroad duties,an then duck back to his barber shop.

OSCAR E.BROOKS a prominent citizen in Edison Park,was a carpenter by trade and enjoyed a prosperous buiness as a building contractor,which he also built several residences, as well as the high water tank which Edison Park had before joining Chicago. Our subject was born in 1869 and his wife Katherine was born in 1872. They came to Edison Park from Jefferson Park in the year 1893,where he built his home on what is now known as Ottawa st. He always was acted in civic affairs and like others always willing to help those who were trying to help themselves. They had following nice family consisting of Arthur-Bessie and Clara Brooks. As the years passed by Mr Brooks started the Norwood Park Coal & Supply Co., in which he placed his son Arthur in charge. This business did very well and the community enjoyed the fair and honest dealings of this concern. Brooks Park was named after him.

JOHN FORRESTER WILSON was born in Cooper,Scotland near Edinbough on April 21.1866,and his lovely wife Carrie P.Peterson was born Oct.21.1867 in Skone,Sweden. They both came to America in 1885. They were married by the famous Rev.Hide of the Moody Bible Institute,and came to Edison Park to live on Feb.22.1895,and lived in their home located on what is known as Oleander ave. They both were very active in the Methodist Episcopal Church,and all of us young people will always appreciate their help as Sunday School teachers. Thomas Wilson a brother of our subject came with John to America and started the rug cleaning business in 1885 at 1112 N.Clark st Chicago Ill. At first they had no modern machinery or equipment to clean the rugs,but instead had to beat them with a carpet beater in a vacant lot next to their place of business. Gradually they bought modern equipment to do the work and to day this business is still carried on in the same old address by Paul Wilson the subject's son,and is now one of the Oldest modern cleaning establishments in Chicago. Our subject and his wife had the following children. Robert-Ethel-Eleanor-and Paul.
Mr John Wilson passed away June 23.1937 and was buried in the Union Ridge Cemetery.

JOHN PETERSON was born on April 3.1871 in Skona,Sweden. He was a brother to Carrie P.Wilson who married John F.Wilson,who lived just across the street from John. When he built in Edison Park Mrs Sigrid Peterson the wife of our subject was also born in Sweden,and it so happened that they both came to America in 1888 and was married in the new home which had just been built in Edison Park on August 26.1896 and were married by Rev R.A.Torre of the Moddy Bible Institute. John Peterson was a cabinet maker by trade and when he first came to Chicago he worked first for the Kimball Piano Co.,and finally got into the Show Case and woodworking business for himself on the South Racine ave in Chicago Ill. He made a success of this venture by hard work and honest dealings. He always was very active in the civic work of the community,served on the Village board of Directors of Edison Park. He also took an active part in the Sunday school work of the Methodist Episcopal Church,which he will always be remembered. They raised a very fine family as follows: PHILIP-Laura-Florence-Esther-Russell and Margaret Peterson. Our subject passed away July 13. 1943 and his dear wife on Nov 29.1953,both buried in the Town of Main Cemetery.

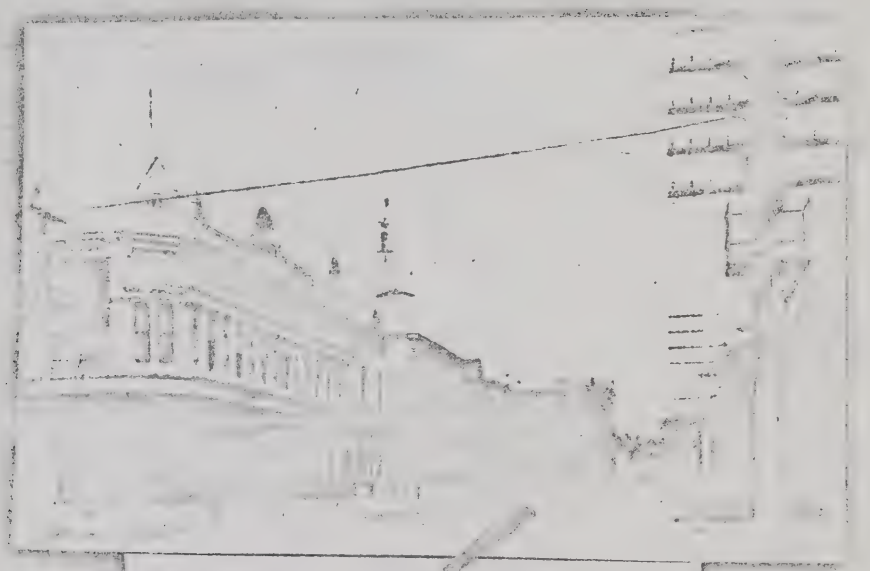
THE GREAT DESTRUCTIVE CYCLONE

.On May 26.1896 Edison Park experienced its most destructive cyclone. It torn up practically all the plank sidewalks from Edison Park to Norwood Park,destroyed many trees and houses. Canfield on the Hill suffered the most,in one odd instance their were two brothers by the name of Fox who lived next door to each other. It blew the one house away and took the other house and set it on the foundation of the other brothers house. Which they left same that way. It was in this terrible Cyclone that the Norwood Park lost its Evangelical United Brethern Church which was located on Clarence ave near Harlem ave.

AUGUST B WALLNER came to Edison Park with his wife on March 8.1919. He had just started in the early Spring of that yearto build this home. Mr Wallner was employed by the Pennsylvania R.R. from which he retired when he reached the proper age,and he has enjoyed several years so far of this retirement. They raised a very fine family,and this family has been well liked by all the community for their Co-operation.

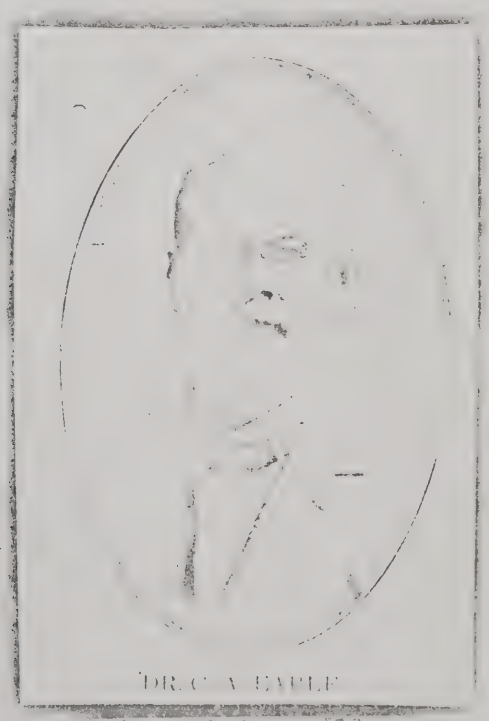
Autobiography of Walter Joseph Knoll

I was born on Southport ave., in Chicago Ill.,on March 18. 1888,came to Edison Park with my folks on Decoration Day May 30.1889 and located on what is now known as 6934 N Overhill ave. The old homestead is still standing there. I had the pleasure of seeing Edison Park grow from about a dozen residences to what it is to day. I had the first Sunday paper route here. My first position was with a wholesale grocery concern on west Randolph st,as a messinger boy. Then I started with the Pennsylvania R.R.,and worked there as an accountant, Before leaving the last position I studied nights and passed the examinations and became a Public Accountant,and have practice as such up to the present time. Being an old railroad man,and liked to travel, I conducted a travel business as a side line for over 35 years,and still continuing same at the present.
In 1913 I married Miss Tillie M.Schlueter of Jefferson Park,and raised two fine sons, Robert W.and Edwin R.Knoll. Robert W Knoll married Miss Irene Koch and they have two children,Gerald W and Janet L.Knoll. My other son Edwin was married first to Miss Shirley Peters,and later was divorced. He was married again to Helen Emilia Kallio on Sept.22.1956 and they are living very happily in Norwood Park Ill.



Ellinwood ave, business district.

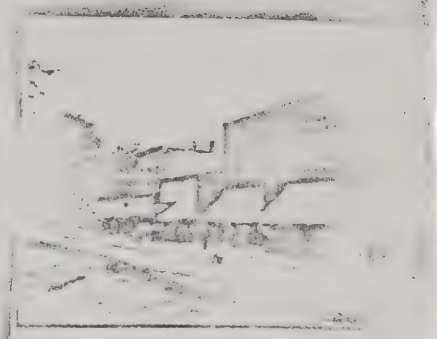
Ellinwood ave. Des Plaines Ill.



Des Plaines Ill.

PB-189625, 467

PARK RIDGE STATE BANK



North Prospect Avenue & Street

Park Ridge Ill.

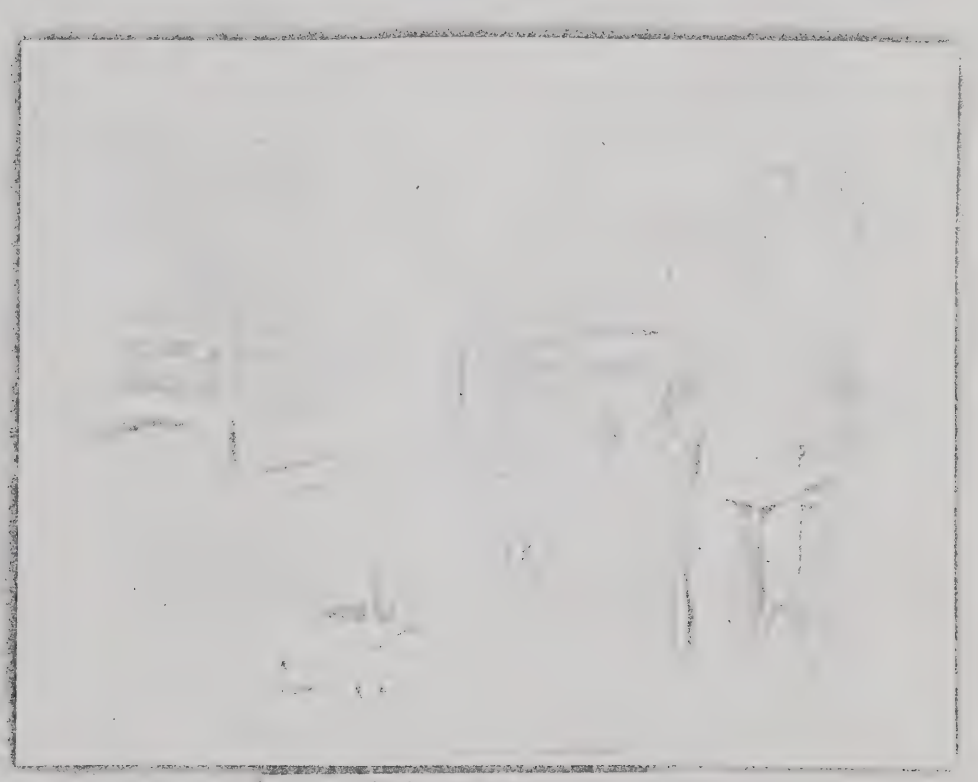
PARK RIDGE

Park Ridge City Hall and Water Works, Jail and Fire Dept.

Prospect ave & Main st. the site of the Old Hotel building operated by the Snoads.

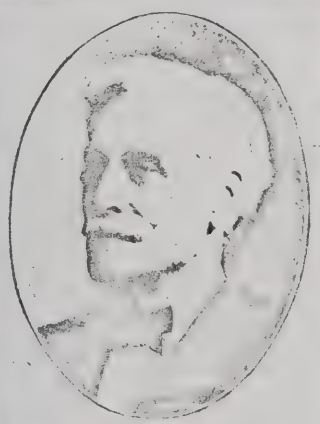
William Kobow's store Northwest Highway Park Ridge Ill.

PARK RIDGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



Robert Stagg
(center)
his sons
Robert and Fred Stagg

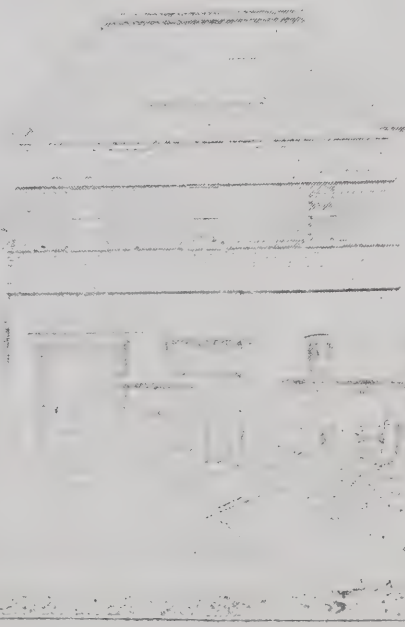
When this building was first built,it was a the first hotel in Park Ridge,operated by Mr & Mrs Snoad. Who the Grandfather to Ray E Willis. Later sold to the Old Peoples Swedish Home.Built on the site where the Gillick Building is to day.



E. C. MAPLEDORAM

Attorney in [illegible]

W. H. KOBOW
FIRST CITY CLERK OF PARK RIDGE



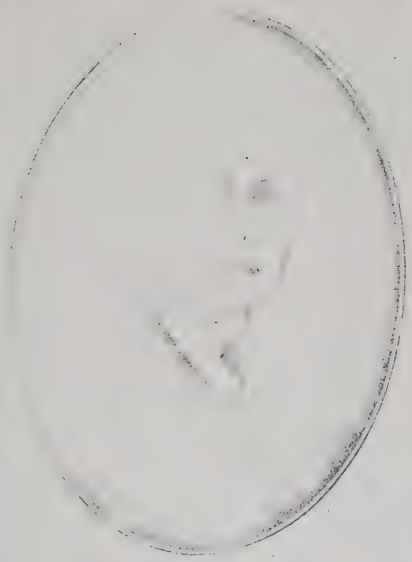
Perkins' Express

LEWIS D. PERKINS

This building was erected by William Phillipson and he installed some dynamos whereby he created the first electric plant in this vicinity,and the building was known then as Electrical Hall,when they use the second floor for social activities, They suppied power for Park Ridge,Edison,Norwood,Jefferson and Edgebrook. Later this plant was sold to M.Schiessle who in turn sold out to the North Shore Electric Co.

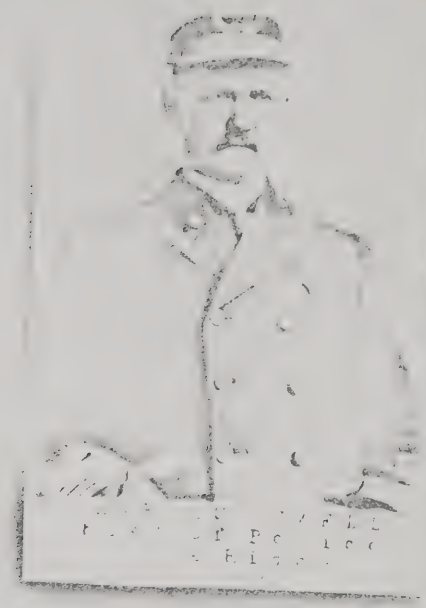
[illegible]

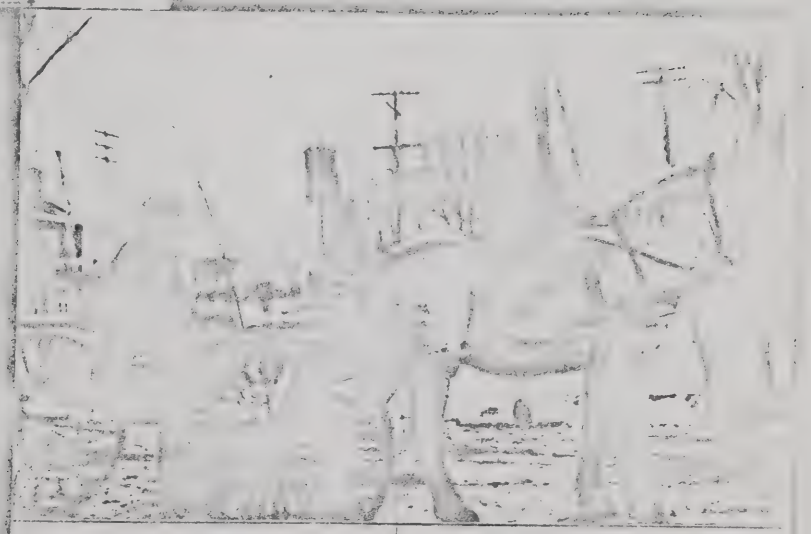
Postmaster in Park Ridge
[illegible]



FRED L. GILLICK

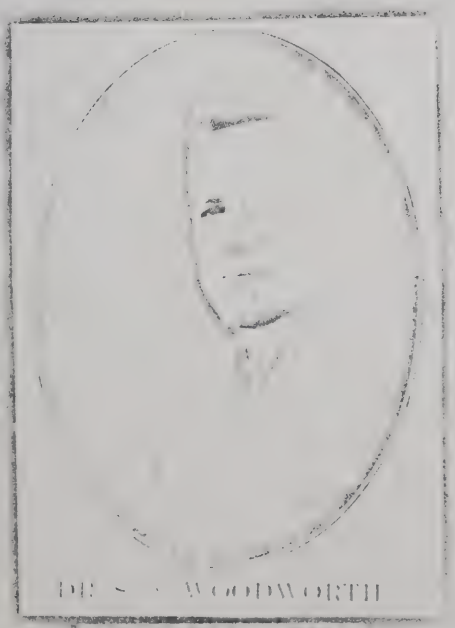
Real Estate man & a Lawyer
Park Ridge Ill.





LE SAM" CUMMINGS, nineteen consecutive years was illage Clerk of Park Ridge. Oldest living pioneer of Park idge, and First Depot Agent of Des Plaines and Park Ridge.

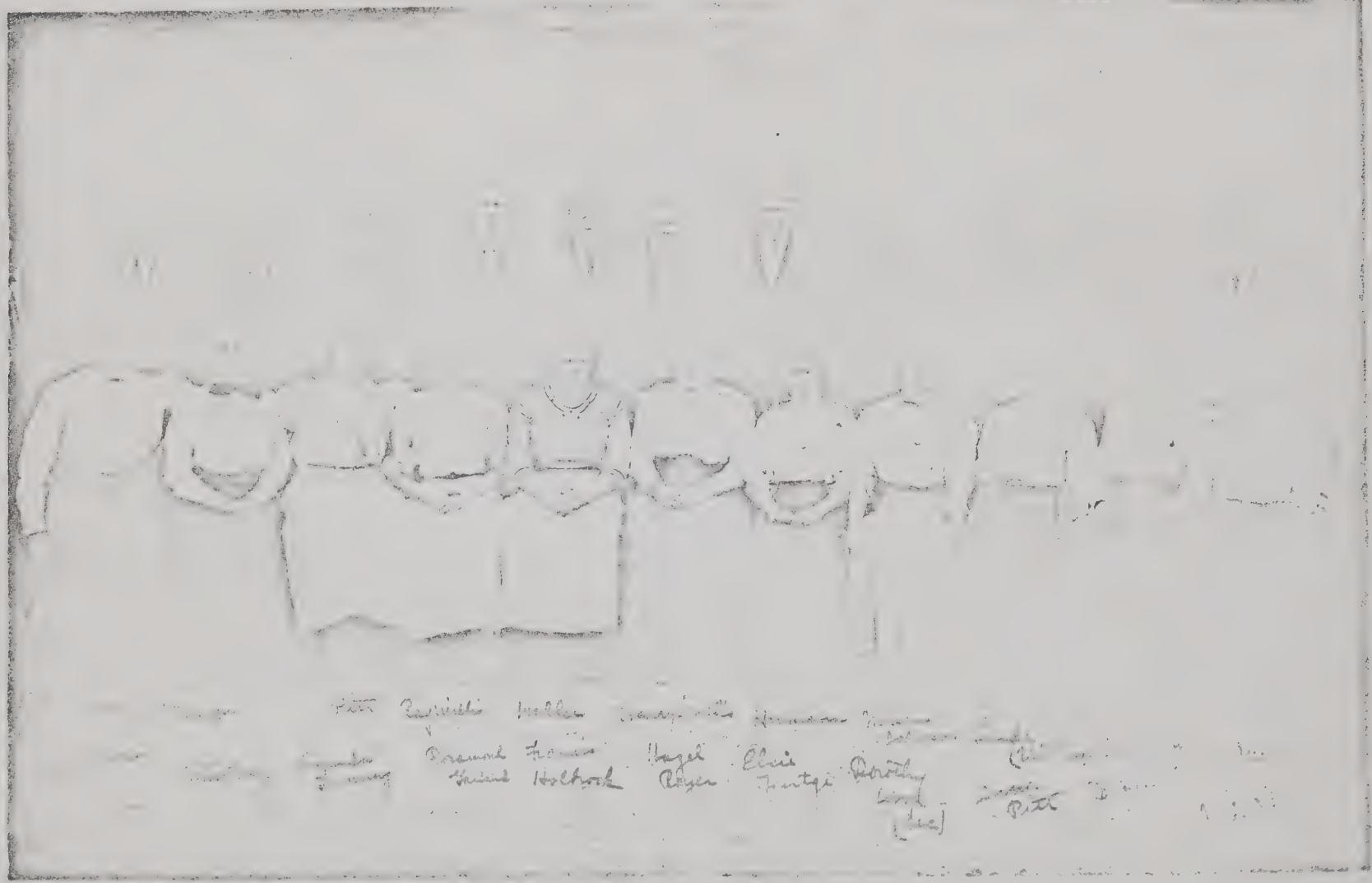
Uncle Samuel Cummings
First depot agent in Park Ridge.



DR. [illegible] WOODWORTH

Park Ridge Ill.

Park Ridge Ill.



RESIDENCE EDISON PARK.

As an Investment

This property surely pr[illegible] next two or three years an advance over present pr[illegible] not to be equalled [illegible] urb around Chicago. Only twenty nine minutes' ride by the [illegible] Railway from the busi- [illegible] the [illegible] Road at an early [illegible] minutes for a [illegible]

[illegible] presenta- [illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] SU[illegible] CURE [illegible] our agent at [illegible] train Sundays with FREE TICKETS for all who desire to go.

BUTLER & McCABE,
85 Washington Street.

People Who Get Ahead

Are those who are [illegible] on the alert an[illegible] ready to act when a [illegible] opportunity is offered. Don't wait, you can [illegible] to bet [illegible] yourself unless you make a [illegible]

THIS IS THE ONE CHANCE

you should [illegible] Call on us or write for par[illegible]

[illegible] McCABE,
[illegible]ton St., CHICAGO.

PORTION OF PARK AT DEPOT.

M. E. CHURCH, EDISON PARK

If You Are Sick

At home you can get all that love can do for you in the home, but

AT EDISON PARK HEALTH RESORT

You can get physician's care, day or night, by touching a bell.

FOOD that will digest!

The Physicians have had years of experience, have made the subject of food a study, and will know what you ought to eat; Cuisine is under supervision of Mrs. M. L. Taylor.

BATHS—Of as many different sorts as the needs of the body require.

EXERCISE—Which does not exhaust.

ENTERTAINMENT—The managers study to entertain the minds of sick ones.

MEDICINE—If you need it.

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Dr. L. WARNER BECK, Edison Park, Ill.

Aids to Succe

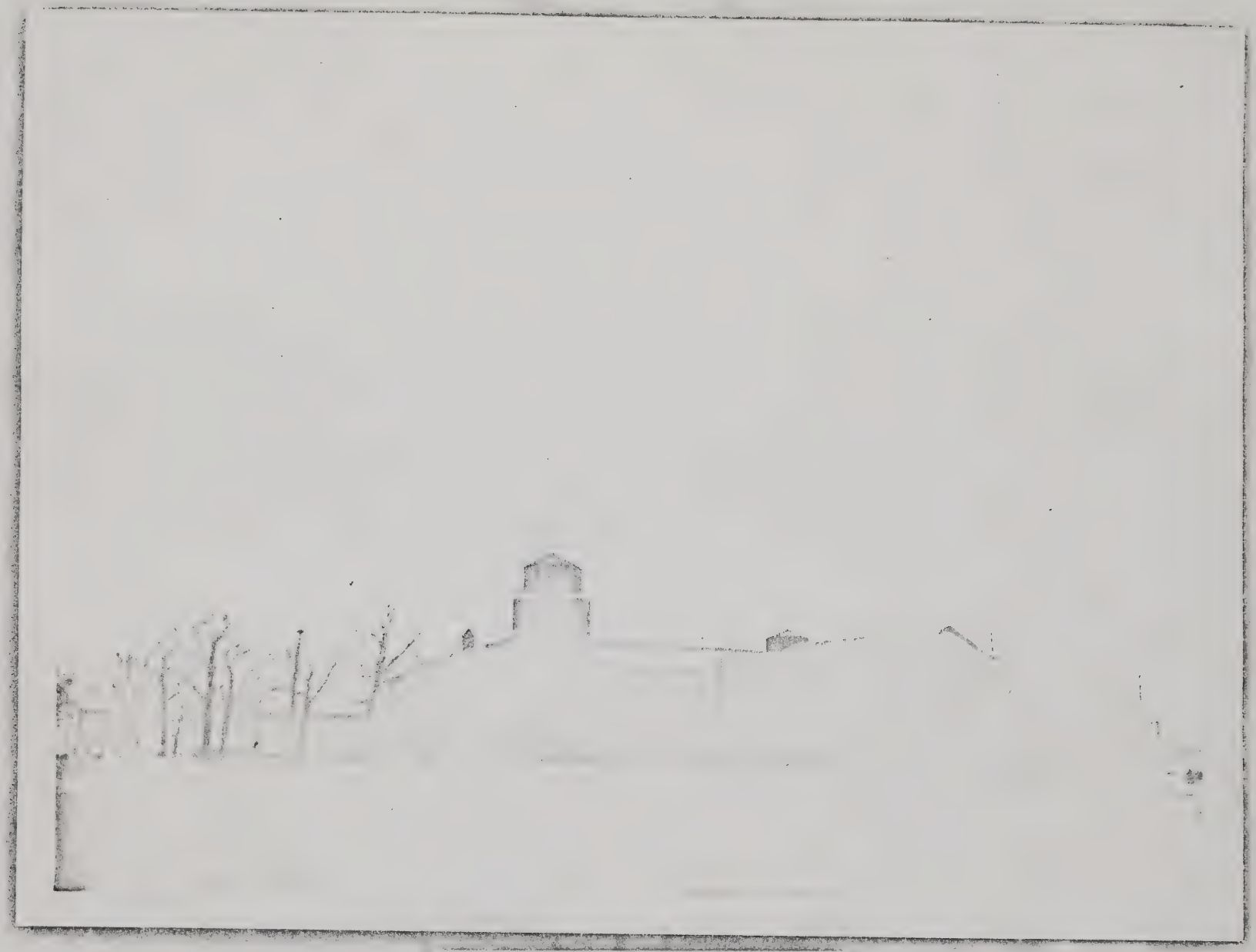
dollars every week in this beautiful
absolute certainty that the value of
by every step Chicago takes.

The Elevated Road

Edison Park a 5 cent fare and quick time to the center
only 10 cents fare now, and only 29 minutes ride on
the Northwestern Railway; but both fare and time will be reduced.
able when the elevated is completed.

Is It Possible

To [illegible] season of the year? We know it is. All that is necessary is to make the temptation strong enough and the public will [illegible] that. But our object is not so much the sale of



Township of Maine High School
Dempster and Potter Roads
Township of Maine, Ill.

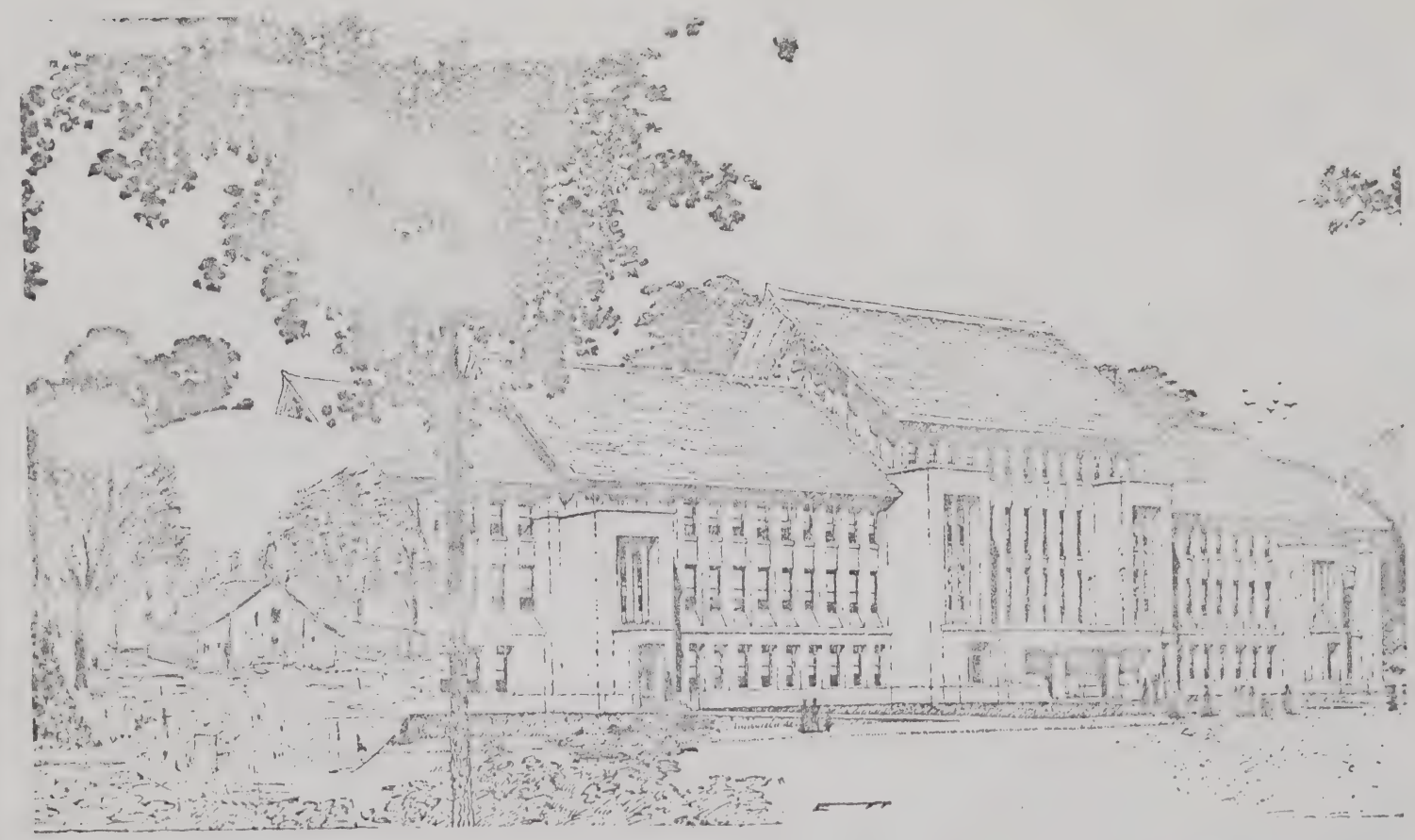
See reversed side for record

The Main Township High School was open up in March 1930
and Mr C.M.Himel was its first principal.
The orginal building cost approximately $1,000,000.00
Students from Park Ridge and Des Plaines attended here.

Taft High School
Norwood Park
Chicago Ill.

See reversed side for record

This High School was named in honor of our President Howard Taft. It was erected at the cost of $1,300,000.00, and opened on September 5.1939 to accommodate the children of Edison Park, Norwood Park, and the nearby community. Mr. Leo.A.Noefer was its first principal, and still retains that position as of May 28.1954

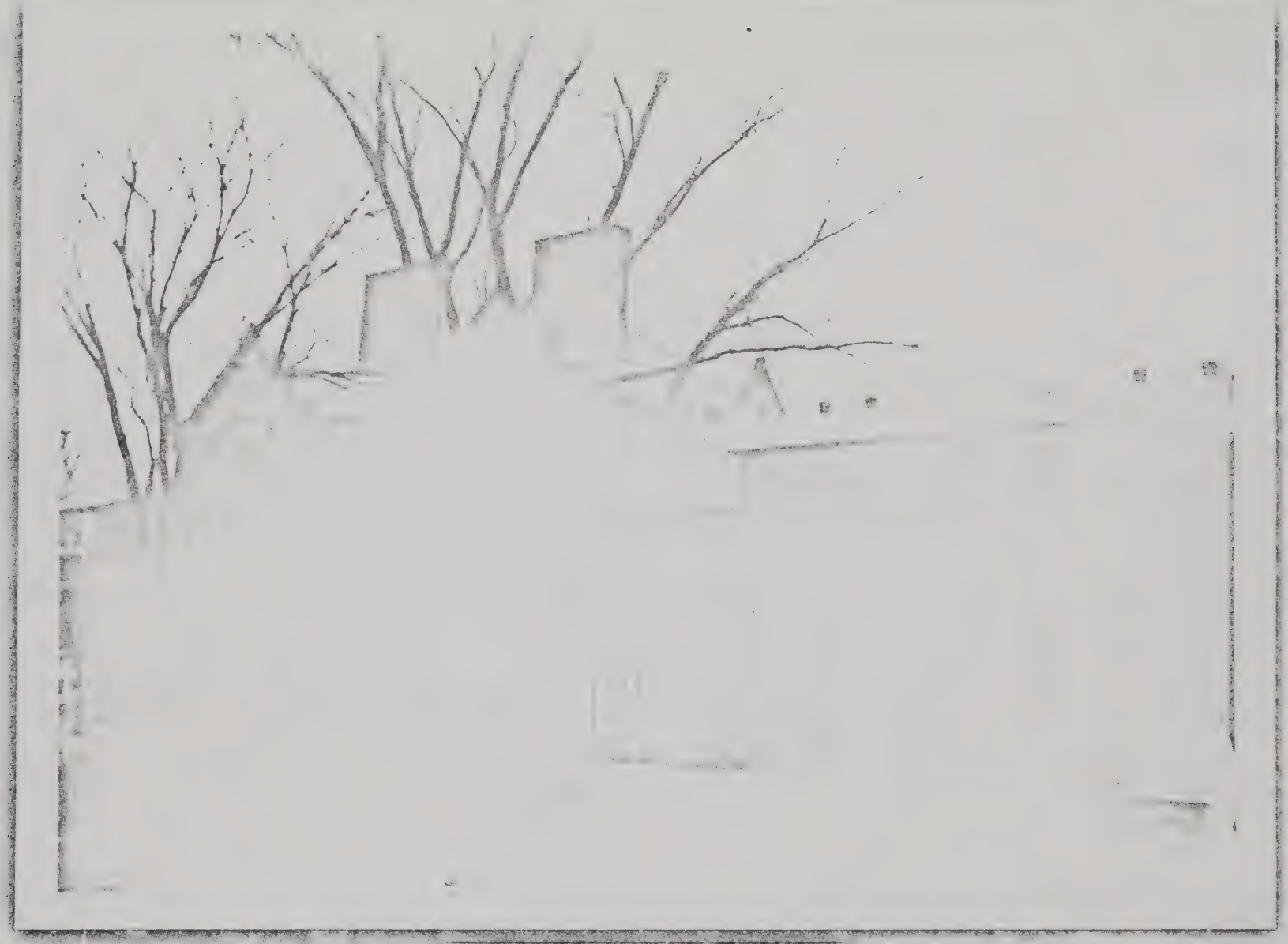


The Carl Schurz High School, on Milwaukee Avenue near Waveland Avenue, opened on Sept. 6th, 1910, seats 1,500 pupils, and is fully equipped with machine shops and apparatus for technical instruction. Its architectural style may be dubbed "Perkinsesque." The site was occupied 18 months ago by the eight-acre farm indicated in the vignette.

See reversed side for record

John Gray had been a school trustee of the Jefferson Village in 1869; and nearly a quarter -century earlier, in March 1845, he was on the first Board of School Inspectors in Chicago Ill., So when they started to erect this high school they were going to name it in honor of John Gray, but before it was completed it was re-named Carl Schurz High School, after the dashing cavalry-leader, General Schurz, who fought at Gettysburg-Chattanooga-and he retrieved Bull Run and Chanchellorsville.

When Edison Park was annexed to Chicago Ill., in 1910, it came under the jurisdiction of the Chicago Board of Education, and the children of Edison Park began to attend the Carl Schurz High School, and continued to do so until September 5.1939 when the New Taft High School at Norwood Park was open for them.



First Des Plaines High School
Thacker and River Road
Des Plaines Ill.

See reverse side for record.

The Des Plaines High School was open up in 1902 for the use of all the pupils of the Township of Maine. Mr William L Smyser was its first principal. Edison Park being in the Township of Main, started their boys and girls now to attend this high school, instead of going to the Old Jefferson High School located at 4626 N Knox ave. at Mayfair, which the former students had to go. When Edison Park was annexed to Chicago in 1910, then all students of Edison Park went to the Carl Schurz High School.

In January 1883, Frederick H. and Catherine Cossett, who came from New York City N.Y., for $1.00 conveyed the land on which the Jefferson High School was built. Original Building was erected and was known as the Jefferson High School. Jefferson Park was annexed to Chicago in June 1889. The enrollment in this high school was 120 pupils, some coming from Des Plaines-Park Ridge-Edison Park-Norwood Park-Jefferson Park-Mayfair-Niles Center-Irving Park and Avondale, as these Villages did not have any high school. Professor Cook was the first principal and retained that position until 1912, when he was succeeded by Miss Annie S. Newman. Finally this building was taken down and a new large school was erected in 1923 in its place.

Old Jefferson High School
4626 N.Knox ave.(Mayfair) Chicago Ill.
See reverse side for record.

The Ebinger School was erected in 1927 at the approximate cost of $700,000.00, and named in honor of Rev.Christian Frederick Ebinger, who donated the land for the school grounds. Mr Christian F Ebinger was born on Februsry 12.1812 in the City of Stuttgart, Wurtemberg, Germany. He came to America in 1831 with his parents Mr John and Katherine Ebinger and his brother John and sister Elizabeth, and they first settled in Ann Arbor Mich. Like most of the early settler's looking for better farming land, they re-moved to Chicago, and followed the Old Indian Trail until they reached Dutchman's Point (Now Niles) where a rattle snake bit their only horse, and it died, so they could not go any further, and this was their destiny, and this was in the year 1834. John Ebinger the father of our subject was an expert gardener and florist, and at one time had charge of the gardens for the King of Wurtemberg in Germany. Our subject Rev.Christian F Ebinger was the first ordained minister of the German Evangelical Association in the State of Illinois. He was also a very fine farmer, raised a lovely family, and his son Christian Ebinger was the first white child born in Niles Township. Part of our subject's farm was in the Township of Main.

The Ebinger School was open on Feb.28.1927, and the following is the list of principals in the order they served this fine school.

H.Gertrude Jaynes	1/12/27 to 8/22/28
Milton J Cohler	8/22/27 to 9/13/33
William L Smyser	9/13/33 to 9/17/34
Walter Shea	9/17/34 to 2/1/35
Edna D Simmons	2/1/35 to 3/15/44
William P Wilson	3/15/44 to 11/7/47
John H.Beckerman	5/3/48 our present principal.

Ebinger School
7350 Pratt ave.
Chicago Ill.

See reverse side for record.

The Central School of Park Ridge was opened in the Fall of 1893, and Miss Harriet Beaumont was its first principal, and she held that position for several years. She was succeeded by Mr Blood-then Mr Collins-Mr Merrill-Mr Smith and Mr Wells etc. This building was erected at the cost of $20000.00 . Among the many fine school teachers that taught in this Central School, was Miss Ella Ford, who probably taught the longest of all the teachers. She was well loved by all who met, and the little ones she so patiently taught, who are now married and have families of their own, will never forget her. As the years passed there was a large one story addition built on this fine school, and finally this school burned down.

The one story addition was built in 1921 which contained the lower grades. The original building stood for 37 years constant use, and burned down in the year 1930

The Central School of Park Ridge
Was Located just north of the
C.& N.W.Ry.Station in Park Ridge.

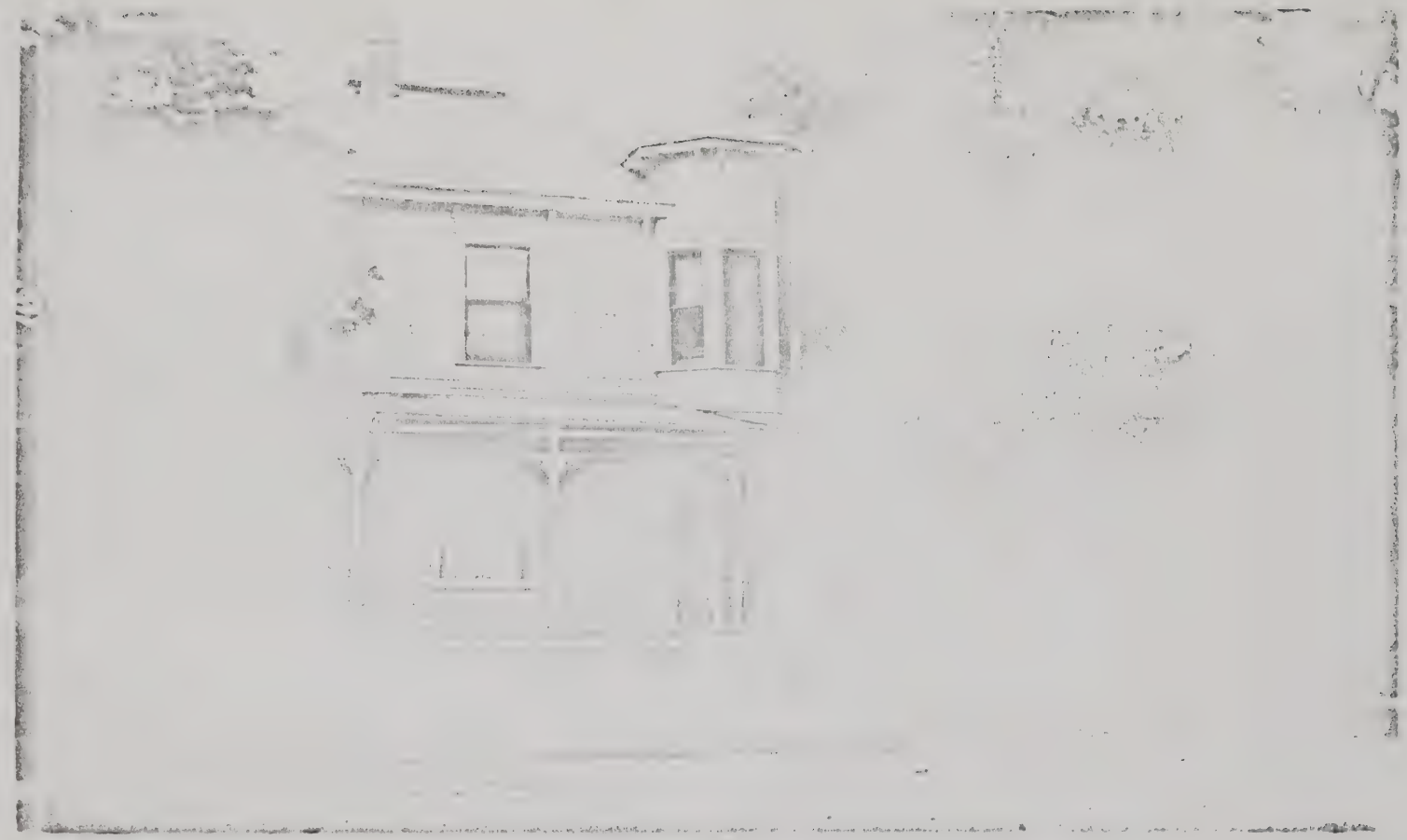
See reverse side for record.

As stated before that Edison Park belong to the Township of Maine School District, and when a new school was needed it had to be voted upon by the citizens before it was permited to be built. When Park Ridge needed the New Central School, which it did, they promised Edison Park citizens to give them a new school as soon as their Central School was paid for out of the taxes received from the Township tax collections. But when this was or nearly accomplished, it so happened there was a wonderful opportunity to purchase an adjoining three acres of land, adjoining the present site of the school, caused by the death of Blacksmith Miller who had just died, who owned this three acres. The business men of Park Ridge were anious to buy this three acres, but the Park Ridge board did not want them to have same, but they wanted this as school grounds. So when it came to a vote in an election, Park Ridge having more votes gained their point, and we sat here waiting for our new school. Then when the question of a high school came up, Park Ridge naturally wanted that also, but I understand that Des Plaines Board came to Edison Park, and promised in the next election if we would permit Des Plaines to have the High School in their town, they would vote for a new school for Edison Park. The election came to passed and we won our new school and Des Plaines got the High School located on Thacker st. and River Road. This school in Edison Park was erected in 1905, which accommodated eight grades and the girls and boys no longer had to go to the Central School in Park Ridge. While there do not seem to be any records available as to ascertaining the exact cost of the building, it has been estimated that it only cost about $25000.00 judging from the price of labor and material at that time which it was erected. Mr Oscar E Brooks was the General Contractor.

Edison Park School
6755 N.Northwest Highway
Chicago Ill.

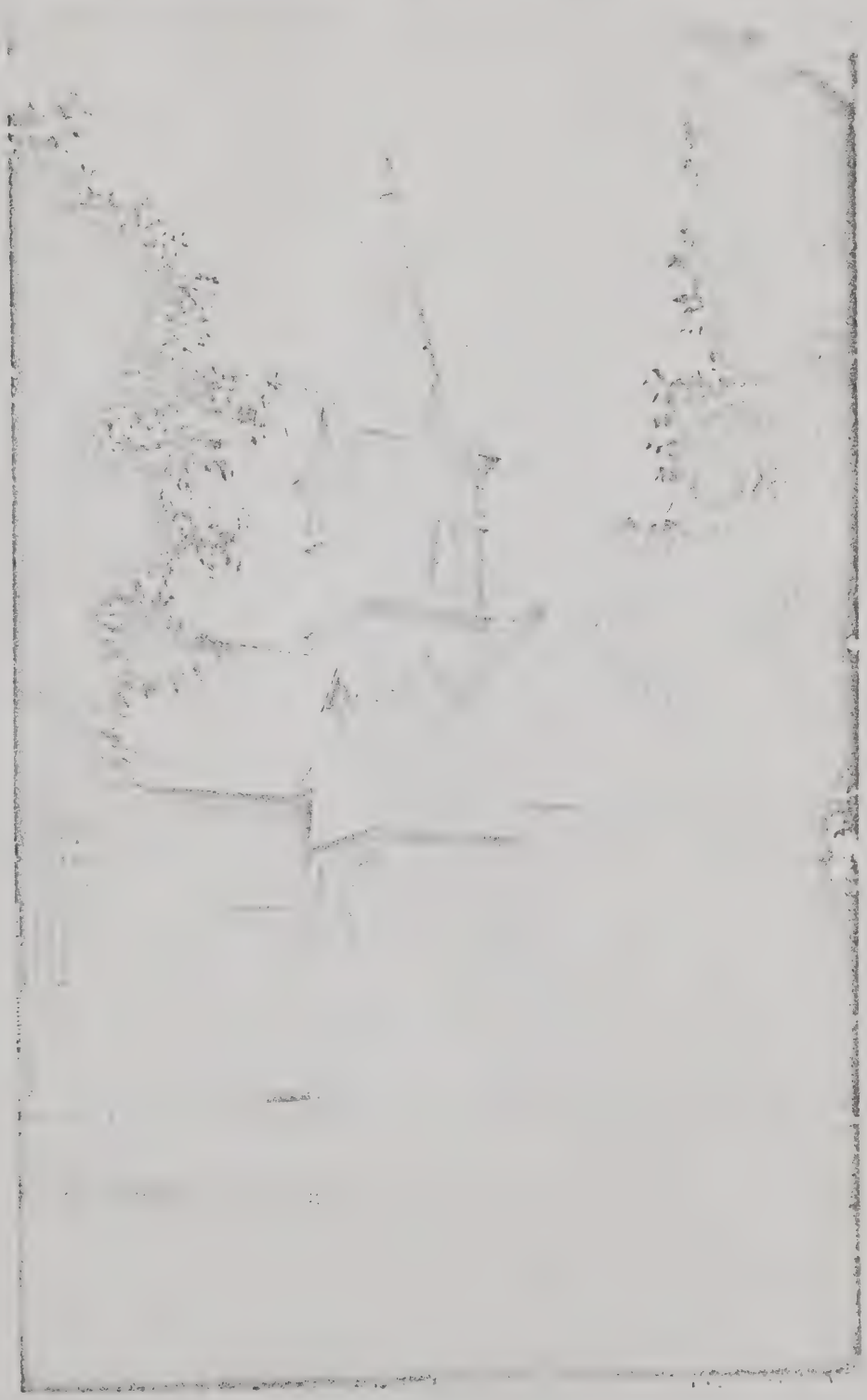
See reverse side for record.

Like most communities, and this one was no exception, began to grow in the number of population, and needed more space for a school, especially for the little children, as Park Ridge school at Grant Place was a long distance for the First to the Third graders to walk too. Edison Park being part of the Township of Main School district, requested a school, so the School Board of Trustees, made arrangements to use a residence, which was located, as what is now known as the S.E.Corner of Oshkosh ave., and Northwest Highway, to accommodate the first four grades of a grammer school, and this was in 1896. It was not a pretentious affair, but far better than a log cabin, while it had a large pot bellied iron stove in the rooms, and had to answer the purpose. They were no toilets in houses in those days, as there were no sewers, or other sanitary conditions, we were furnished with a natural air cooled Castles, which were located on the south end of the property. How well I remember frame shed, boarded up with shiplap boards, divided in the center with a partition, the east section for the boys and the west for the girls, with a high fence attached to the center from the outside. The walls were beautifully decorated with initials carved by many a boys jack knife. Yes those were the days. Our principal was Miss Harriett Beaumont, who was also the principal of the Central School in Park Ridge. Our first teachers in this school were Mrs Kingsbury- Miss Farrington-Etta W.Ward)later became Mrs Suydan) Miss Marion Trimm, who became Mrs Gillick, Miss Helen Trimm, Miss Mc Queen and Miss Nichols etc. This school building was used until the year 1905, when the new brick school erected, which is now used for the library on Northwest Highway. Julia McNally (Mrs Walsh Sr.) also taught her



Edison Park School
Accommodated the First to the Fourth Grades
Inclusive.
Was located at what is now known as the S.E.
Corner of Oshkosh ave.,and Northwest Highway.
See reverse side for the record

From the year 1870 to 1892 all the children of this community had to go to the Park Ridge Grammer School located at Grant Place, even the little children, as there was no school in Edison Park. In the year of 1892 the M.E.Church was erected, and as this little community needed a school nearer by especially for the little children, they used the south room of this building to accommodate the first three grades of a grammer school, while the older children belonging in fourth or upper grades still had to go to the Grant Place school in Park Ridge, until they closed that school in the fore part of the year 1893, and then they used the new Central School in Park Ridge located just north of the railroad station. The first school teachers of this School in the M.E.Church in Edison Park were a Miss Hurd and a Miss A.Mc Nally, who later became Mrs Kingsbury. Finally about 1896 the school equipment was moved over to a residence, located what is now known as the Southeast corner of Oshkosh ave., and the Northwest Highway.



First frame building church
erected in Edison Park Ill.
and the south room of same
was used as our first school.
Built in the year 1892

See reverse [illegible]

In the Town of Brickton(now Park Ridge) School District #2,on June 7.1867, the school directors were authorized to issue bonds to any extent within the limits of law to build a new school house,and afterward$5000.00 was the amount agreed upon. The new brick school-house was soon afterward commenced, and in August,1869,$2880.14 had been expended on the building. It was completed in 1870,at a cost of $6542.00,and the old school house which formerly stood in its place was sold for $65.00. The new school consisted of two rooms,and additional was added in 1881 at the cost of $5000.00. There were three rooms occupied on the first floor by 150 scholars,taught by three teachers and one principal,and two assistants.In the primary room of this school small bits of sponge were tied to each desk with a string,for these small scholars used slates instead of paper,and these were sponged off to erase the work on them. A hugh board fence enclosed a yard at the rear ,and a like fence divided this yard down the center,providing separate play yards for the boys and girls. A board sidewalk ran the length of each yard to the Castles where toilets were installed,as there was neither running water,nor sewerage system at that time.These houses were kept clean and sanitary as scrub brush and soap, water and lime could make them. In 1885 Mr Schroeder was principal,and Miss Harriet Beaumont was a teacher in the upper grades,and she later became principal There,also first principal in the New Central School located just north of the [illegible] erected in 1893. This Grant Place school was in constant use for over twenty years, then it stood idle for awhile ,and in 1895 this building was used for High School classes under the direction of one teacher "Mr Emerson". There were not many pupils as most of the boys and girls had started in the Old Jefferson High School located at what is now known as 4646 N Knox ave. Mayfair Ill.(now Chicago) When the Town of Main High School in Des Plaines which was erected in 1902,all the students from Edison Park and Park Ridge attended same.

From the year 1870 to 1892 all the children(even the little tots) had to go this Park Ridge School located at Grant Place,which was a long way to walk.

When the Edison Park M.E.Church was built in 1892,it accommodated the first three grades all in one room,and yet the older children had to go to this school in Grant Place,until the Central School in Park Ridge was built,and that accommodated the fifth to the eighth grades inclusive.In 1896 a residence was purchased by the Board of Education of the Township of Main,which was located at the S.E.Corner of what is now known as Oshkosh ave and Northwest Highway,to accommodate the first four grades of Grammer School for the Edison Park Children.

The Old Grant Place School

See page [illegible]

O U R F I R S T S C H O O L H O U S E

Our first school house was a log cabin,I have been advised when I was a boy,by an early settler,who was Mr Emil Huebach, who came from Chicago ,after the Great Chicago Fire in 1871, and settled on a small farm on the northwest corner of what is now known as Ibsen st.and Overhill ave.Chicago. This community was then called Canfield,later changed to Edison Park Ill. The log cabin school house was located near the northwestern boundary line of this community in the open prairie,about in the easterly direction from the present location of the St.Vincent's Orphanage in Park Ridge Ill. Mr Emil Huebach told me that he did not know who actually attended this log cabin school,but did say that he thought some of the Indians went there. In my research of early records in libraries,I did find mentioned this log cabin school,and that other early settlers did not seem to know who attended the school. This log cabin school probably was erected about 1858. Any boys or girls who wish to attend grammer school after 1870,had to go to the school located at Grant Place in Village of Brickton (Now Park Ridge),and this school was used until the Edison Park M.E.Church was built in 1892 . It was in the south room of this church where the first three grades of a grammer school were held.

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